

# The Middlebury Campus

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Since 1905

## Self Reliance house resettles at College

By Danny Zhang  
STAFF WRITER

After starting with a proposal two years ago and being on the road for more than 1000 miles, the College's Solar Decathlon team brought back their prize-winning achievement, the Self-Reliance house, to the College for good on Oct. 7.

The zero carbon footprint, self-sustaining house is now permanently perched near Meeker and Munford Houses, at the entrance to the parking lot of the Mahaney Center for the Arts.

After their fourth-place finish in the Department of Energy's biennial competition, the team, led by Alex Jopek '11 and Ben Brown '11, are now reconstructing the house for the final time.

Working 40 hours a week, Jopek and Brown have been busy repairing some road wear in the private spaces of the house, installing a new geothermal system that will increase the house's energy efficiency and connecting the water, heat and electricity.

"We built the bulk of the house here in one day," Jopek said. "The first week we were here, it was hard to get anything done because there were so many people that wanted to stop and chat."

According to the duo, the iconic photovoltaic panels were put up early in the construction process, so people could recognize

the house.

Brown and Jopek are also receiving help from some other members of the team, as well as the Solar Decathlon class that has paralleled the project from its inception.

The construction crew projects that they will be completely finished with the house by the end of the semester, though there is no strict timeline. However, an open house event for the Board of Trustees is planned for mid-November, by which point construction and repairs in the public space and on the outside of the house will be largely wrapped up.

There will also be a "house-warming party" once the house is completely done, according to Team Manager Melissa Segil '11.5.

Starting in February, the house will also serve as a special interest house for students, explained Project Manager Addison Godine '11.5. Three or four students will be selected to live in the house through an application process.

"In the future, the idea is that the house will be an environmental outreach center," said Segil, "but the house is designed to be a home. So we think that having it as a residence and an outreach center will be great."

All the lead members of the

SEE SD, PAGE 2



Courtesy of Middlebury College

The Sunday Night Group (SNG), above, meets weekly in the Chateau Grand Salon to discuss environmental issues. The student group has been at the forefront of greening the College for years.

## SNG explores passive solar

By Emily Singer  
STAFF WRITER

College environmental organization Sunday Night Group (SNG) is planning to write a proposal to install passive solar water heaters on campus-owned houses.

Passive solar is anything that captures the sun's energy without photovoltaics, or silicon chips, and other mechanical or electrical devices. South-facing windows are considered to be passive solar, as the greenhouse effect can maximize the sun's energy and heat a home naturally.

Ben Wessel '11.5 and Jake Lessing '14 are spearheading the initiative. They have been working with the Vermont Public Interest Research Group (VPIRG) on their Solar Addison County program, which seeks to make the installation of passive solar water heaters more affordable for county residents.

If installed, passive solar could

reduce water-heating costs by 60-70 percent annually, cutting 100 percent of water-heating costs during the summer and 30 percent of costs during the winter months. The system would cost an estimated \$8,000 to \$10,000 per house and generally pays for itself within ten years.

"[Installing the system would be really simple] because there's no real re-working of electricity," Lessing said. "You just change some pipelines and run a pipe from the hot water tank that the house already has, to a passive solar panel on the roof and then connect it back down to the water tank."

Initially approached by VPIRG to promote solar hot water panel installation across the county, Wessel and Lessing saw potential for the water heaters to be installed at the College.

"We own a lot of houses," Wessel said, and "the houses are [probably] all using [fuel oil or electric] to heat hot water. Why not go solar?"

The College experimented with passive solar water heaters several years ago under "Operation Boiling Point." The project was a joint effort between Will Drucker '08 and the College Facilities Services Office, and resulted in the installation of a solar

water heater on 149 Shannon Street, though did not expand beyond that.

With support from VPIRG and the prospect of state or federal funding, SNG hopes that passive solar will be more successful this time around.

VPIRG's interest in the College's installation of passive solar water heaters is twofold. Most obvious is the fact that passive solar water heaters are inherently green and environmentally friendly.

Less apparent is the fact that installing passive solar water heaters would give the College a new leadership role within Addison County.

"One of the biggest hurdles to renewable energy is the fact that the people who use and pay for heat and fuel don't have any control over improvements," said VPIRG Solar Community Coordinator Dan Conant. "Middlebury can show how landlords can reduce costs for their tenants."

The Sunday Night Group's goal is to have passive solar water heaters installed on College-owned homes that are most commonly rented out to faculty and staff. The roughly 100 houses currently use fuel oil or electricity to heat their water.

SEE CONSTRUCTION, PAGE 2

## College sees less dorm damage

By Kyle Finck  
NEWS EDITOR

After experiencing a record \$140,564.45 of dorm damage in the 2010-2011 academic year, the College posted a modest drop in damages in September of this year.

The College incurred \$5,384.56 of damage in the first month of the 2011-2012 academic year, a \$480.27 reduction from Sept. 2010.

Despite the humble reduction in numbers, Assistant Director of Facilities Services Linda Ross said the improvement was significant.

"I meet with the team leaders of the custodial staff regularly, and they have reported that it has been a much better year in terms of their relationships with their students," she said. "Regardless of what the numbers say, I'm hearing it straight from the horse's mouth that it's a better year."

Ross stressed the importance of communication between students and the custodial teams, which comprise over 85 full-time staff mem-

bers.

"If you know Sally is cleaning your dorm and you know her by name, you're going to think twice before damaging the dorm," said Ross.

But other administrators are more cautious.

"It's great to see this improvement, but it's too soon to declare victory," said Vice President for Administration Tim Spears. "These numbers could shoot up and there's always Winter Term to look forward to, which is always a busy time when it comes to dorm damage."

Director of Facilities Services Norm Cushman is equally wary. He has tracked dorm damage at the College for over 15 years and said spikes and dips are common.

"It's an ebb and flow, and it doesn't seem to follow any pattern," he said. "It's been quieter this year, but it's still too early to tell."

Last year's record dorm damage capped a half-decade span in which dorm damage nearly tripled,

from \$52,418.69 in 2006-07 to over \$140,000 five years later.

The increase prompted a strong reaction from Old Chapel. President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz along with other deans hosted an open student forum called "Alcohol: Use, Abuse, and the Disrespect for Community" April 26 that focused on alcohol's role in causing dorm damage.

But Cushman said yearly increases in dorm damage are nothing new.

"I wouldn't say it's alarming. I've seen spikes like this before," he said. "It has been creeping upwards the last four or five years, but we [also] had some horrific years in the 1990s where the damage was remarkable."

Last year's dorm damage total is also partly due to what Ross called "big-ticket items." Ross said the year's big-ticket item was the Gifford fire on Feb. 26.

SEE DAMAGE, PAGE 3

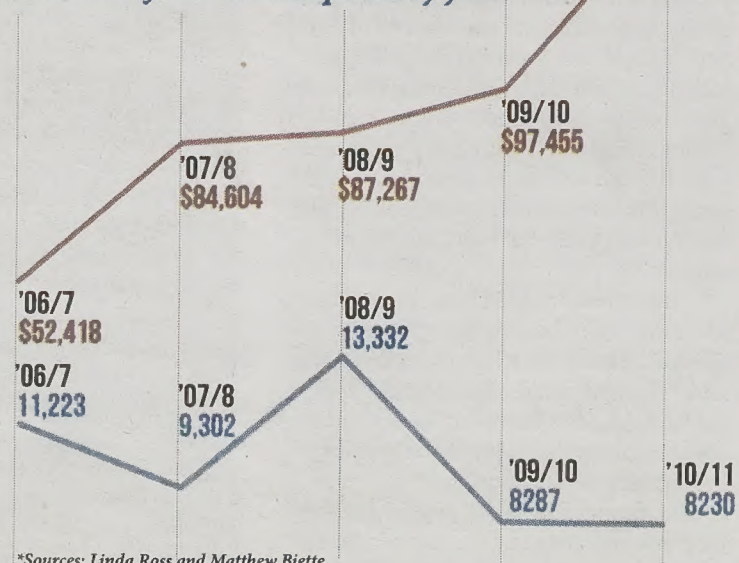


Welcome to the annual green issue of the Campus, where we take a closer look at what makes Middlebury green. Check out our editorial on page 9 and our coverage of the continued "greening" of the College in every section, including, in some cases, where we still fall short.

### DAMAGING TRENDS

Dorm damage by year in dollars

Numbers of new dishes opened by year



\*Sources: Linda Ross and Matthew Biette

this week



### Trick or Treat

Town comes together for Spooktacular Halloween fun, page 6.



### Green architecture

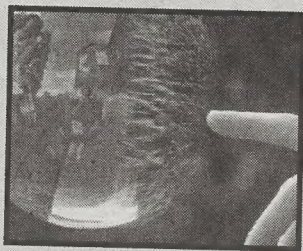
Read about the green buildings on campus, page 14-15.

### Tipi takedown

Say goodbye to the weaved structures in front of the CFA, page 17.







## beyond the bubble

by Melanie Haas  
Staff Columnist

Despite the disapproval from the European Union, Russia and the United States, a Kiev courtroom sentenced Yulia V. Tymoshenko, a former Ukrainian prime minister famous for her opposition to the current administration, to seven years in prison Oct. 11 for "abuse of office." Experts report that Tymoshenko's arrest illustrates the government's intention to distance itself from Western influence, following the Russian political model instead.

Then-Prime Minister Tymoshenko is accused of acting against Ukrainian interests in a 2009 negotiation with Russia. Prosecutors accused her of striking a deal with Russian Prime Minister Vladimir V. Putin that hurt Ukraine's economy when she agreed to pay an unreasonably high price for natural gas, reported *The New York Times*.

A \$190 million fine will accompany Tymoshenko's seven years of incarceration. Most importantly, the ruling will prevent the Ukrainian leader and activist from participating in the political realm for the next 10 years.

The European Union has publicly expressed outrage over the court's ruling, insisting that the heart of the issue lies, not in Tymoshenko's actions, but in the current administration's political objectives.

Over the past four years, the European Union (EU) and Ukraine have been working towards a free trade agreement. The EU's disappointment over the court ruling may have derailed any hopes of such an agreement, reported the *Times*.

Ukraine's current president, Viktor Yanukovich, does seem interested in collaborating with Europe. Soon after the verdict, he assured reporters that the decision made in court on Tuesday was not final, reminding reporters that the court of appeals will make a decision "within the bounds of the law," which will have "great significance."

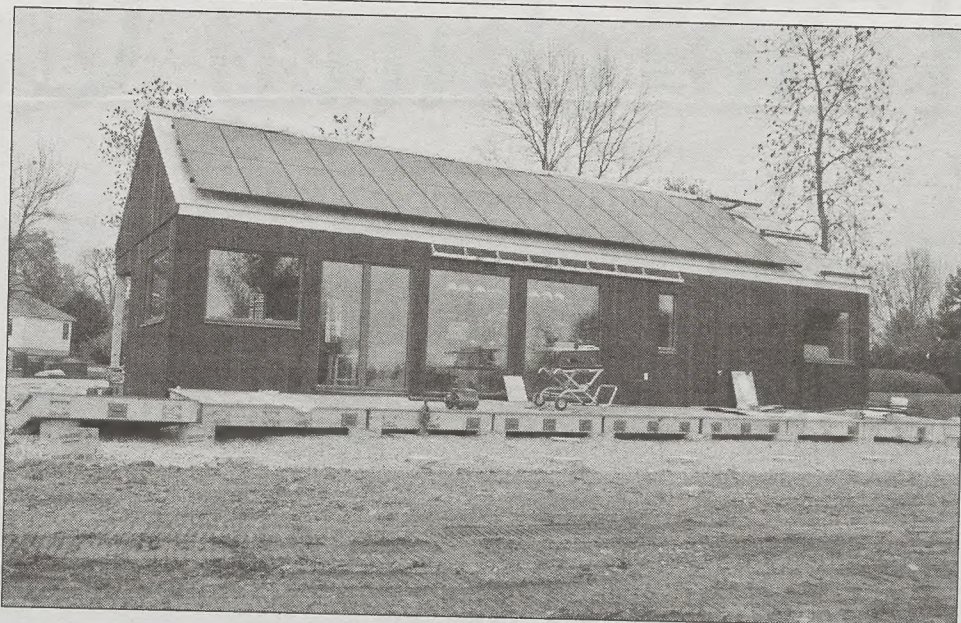
Experts believe that Yanukovich will seek to demonstrate his commitment to the EU by exerting his influence in Tymoshenko's case, according to the *Times*. He may even be able to clear her of all charges should he choose to decriminalize the article that the court has convicted her of violating.

Obama's administration has condemned Tymoshenko's treatment and the imprisonment of the Ukrainian president's other political rivals, reported the *Times*. The U.S. is encouraging that the Ukrainian government allow Tymoshenko to run in the country's primaries next year.

Along with Western condemnation, Russian officials have expressed frustration with Tymoshenko's sentence. While Yanukovich's administration has received criticism for patterning its government's operation off of Russian example, the Russian Foreign Ministry has accused this trial of representing Ukraine's "anti-Russian sentiments." Prime Minister Putin commented, "I don't really understand what they gave her seven years for," a statement, which seems unsurprising considering that Tymoshenko's deal with Putin led to her arrest.

The *Times* reported that Tymoshenko spoke over the judge as he read the verdict on Tuesday. Facing the television cameras, she said, "This is an authoritarian regime. Against the background of European rhetoric, Yanukovich is taking Ukraine farther from Europe by launching such political trials."

As Europe and Russia struggle to assert their influence over Ukraine, the current administration must exercise care as Tymoshenko's case moves to the court of appeals. While some citizens seek to blame Ukraine's current troubled economic climate on the former prime minister, others insist that her arrest, along with the arrest of other political leaders, may indicate that Yanukovich wants less opposition in the next election.



Self Reliance has made its permanent home at the entrance to the CFA parking lot. Paul Gerard, Photos Editor

## TEDx to come to Midd

By Adam Schaffer

NEWS EDITOR

A series of 18-minute talks will bring "ideas worth spreading" to students, faculty and staff Nov. 5. The event — dubbed TEDx, an independently-organized version of the official TED talks, named for bridging people from the worlds of Technology, Entertainment and Design — challenges speakers to "give the talk of their lives" in 18 minutes with the goal of sparking meaningful discussion and connection in a small group setting.

Saturday's presentations will feature 16 speakers, including 350.org founder and Middlebury professor Bill McKibben and Emmy award-winning Senior Director of NBC News Washington Jeffrey Blount. Blount's presentation will be complemented by his wife and Middlebury alumna Jeanne Meserve '74, a reporter with CNN known for her coverage of homeland security. Lt. Dan Choi of the United States Army, best known for his activism in repealing the controversial Don't Ask, Don't Tell legislation banning gays from openly serving in the military, will also speak.

The event — capped at an audience size of 100 as per TED rules — will be in McCardell Bicentennial Hall 216. While tickets to the live version sold out within hours, members of the College community will be able to view the talks via a live stream in McCardell Bicentennial Hall 220, which will also include a facilitated discussion after each speaker. Commons offices have also been encouraged to host live streams, and the event will be streamed live to students at the Monterey Institute for International Studies. The presentations will be available online to the public shortly after the event.

The one-day student organized conference has been months in the making. Organizers Annie Makela '11.5, Hudson Cavanagh '14, Olivia Grugan '12 and Janet Rodrigues '12 began work on this fall's event last spring.

"Many, many hours have gone into planning this event and it is not something we entered lightly," Makela said. "Coordinating 16 speakers is no small task. I speak on behalf of all organizers in saying that it has been an extremely worthwhile experience."

Roughly half of the \$10,500 organizers needed for the event came from the MCAB Speakers Fund, and the other half was made up of a variety of sources and major support from the College's Project on Creativity and Innovation. Costs were kept low because speakers are not paid for their participation and were only reimbursed for travel and accommodations.



LGBT activist Lt. Dan Choi will give one of the 16 presentations this Saturday. Courtesy

## Construction to wait for new rebate laws

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The price of both conventional energy sources is rising and is expected to continue doing so, especially if the Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant shuts down. Vermont Yankee provides approximately one third of all power in Vermont, and has come under fire in recent years for the risk to the environment and surrounding communities it may pose.

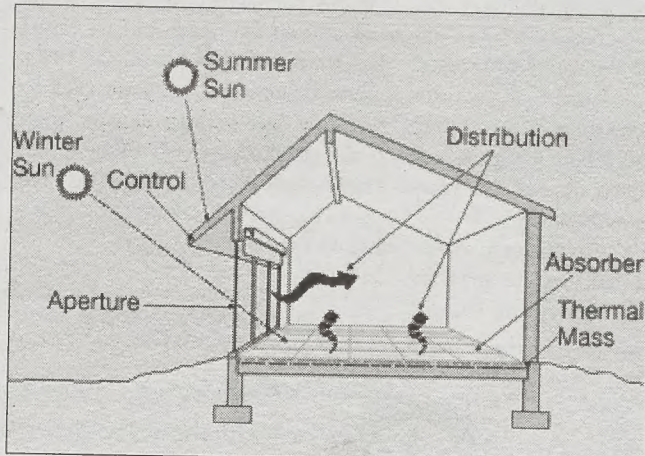
VPIRG would not be able to help fund the College's passive solar water heaters directly, as the College is nonprofit and VPIRG works primarily with private homes.

"There are ... federal and state rebates for nonprofits like [the College], but those are going to change by December when the year ends," said Lessing. "Anything we propose definitely won't get built by the end of this year, so we just have to wait to see what new laws

are coming out."

The Sunday Night Group aims to have a proposal finalized by spring and anticipates that the College will act quickly on their project.

"This is the kind of thing that saves the College money, reduces our [carbon] footprint in a way that we hadn't thought about before and it's a great PR messaging point, so it seems like it's a win-win-win," said Wessel.



The passive solar systems would use the sun to heat water, without the use of photovoltaics or other electronics. Courtesy

campusnews

## SD to carry on tradition in new location

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

team and their faculty advisor Andrea Murray all expressed their relief that the most stressful and pressured component of the project is over.

"It's nice to work on the home with less pressure," said Jopek and Brown.

"We're still working but not at such a frenzied pace as before," Godine said, echoing their thoughts.

According to Godine, there is even talk of publishing a book to encapsulate the whole project.

Although some members of the team have already left the College, there are still younger students on campus who will learn from this experience and continue making an environmental impact in the school. That is the legacy that the team wishes to leave at the College.

"Midd Kids built that house. It's not perfect, but we built it!" Visiting Lecturer in Architecture and Faculty Adviser Andrea Murray said. "We hope that the team has paved the way for students who want to put together a hands-on project. We hope we've shown the administration that Midd Kids can be responsible and thorough and really take the initiative to ... make the world a better place."



MCAB PRESENTS  
**WHAT'S HAPPENING AT MIDD?**

TRIVIA

THURSDAY // 9-11 P.M. // CROSSROADS CAFE // 21+ TWO FORMS OF ID // FOOD PROVIDED BY CROSSROADS CAFE

FFF: CAPTAIN AMERICA

FRIDAY // 7 P.M. AND 10 P.M. // DANA AUDITORIUM

ZUMBA

SUNDAY // 4 P.M. // MCCULLOUGH SOCIAL SPACE



## Middbrief Students to head to D.C. for pipeline protest

by Charlotte O'Herron, Staff Writer

Over fifty students will travel to Washington, D.C. this weekend to join thousands of protesters in a Nov. 6 rally against the Keystone XL pipeline, which would connect the tar sands in Canada to oil refineries along the Gulf Coast. President Obama has the power to reject the building of the Keystone pipeline, and protesters hope to remind the president of their strong stance on this environmental issue and to urge him to reject the pipeline.

Student organizers Hannah Bristol '14, Caroline Santinelli '14 and Greta Neubauer '14 were motivated by their concern for environmental issues as well as by Schumann Distinguished Scholar Bill McKibben's prominent role thus far in the Tar Sands protests. Transportation will be funded through donations and fundraising, and Middlebury students who live in the D.C. area will provide free housing for the weekend.

Bristol, Santinelli and Neubauer aimed to send one full bus — 55 people — to D.C.

for the protest, and they seem confident that they will meet this goal. McKibben wrote in an email that "Middlebury students who travel down to D.C. will be playing their usual leadership role — it's Midd Kids more than those at any other campus in America who have been in the forefront of the climate fight from the beginning."

They plan to congregate with other Vermont college students before the protest to organize a network of students interested in environmental activism.

"There will be no arrests this time, just thousands of people circling the White House in — depending on your mood — either a big o-shaped hug or a kind of symbolic house arrest," said McKibben.

Santinelli echoed McKibben, emphasizing the protests' goal of demonstrating the will of voters.

"In August, the point of the protests was to get arrested and bring attention to the

movement," Santinelli said. "So they purposefully stood in front of the gates of the White House, which was hugely successful."

Bristol agreed with Santinelli and said, "Now, the point of the Nov. 6 protest is not to get arrested, but to show President Obama that these are his voters, and we need him to stop this pipeline from being built because the power lies in his hands."

Middlebury students plan on standing far enough away from the White House so that they do not risk arrest. Most of the Tar Sands protesters supported Obama in 2008, and their signs and banners will feature quotes from his 2008 campaign.

"It [is important that Obama blocks] the pipeline because his environmental commitment is one of the reasons why we supported him in 2008 and why we want to continue to support him," Bristol said. "So this is just making him accountable to his supporters and to the nation."



## overseas briefing

by Bronwyn Oatley '13

PARIS — After two years at Middlebury, I believed myself to be an ecologically-conscious human being. I recycled, received Sunday Night Group mailings (which naturally made me more enviro-friendly), and tried to avoid buying things with excessive bubble-wrap. I thought that due to strenuous repetition, these morals and habits had ingrained themselves deeply enough into my being that when I went beyond the borders of Middlebury, Vt., they would stick with me; that I would remain a relatively green individual.

And then I came to France.

One of the first nights with my host family, my host mother cooked something that involved a cardboard box. After the meal she and I were in the kitchen cleaning up, when I came across this lonely looking piece of blatantly-recyclable material. My French still rusty, and not wanting to ask "où se trouve" (where to find) the recycling bin, I danced around my host mom searching for a home for the forlorn object.

Eventually, she asked me what it was I was looking for. "Uhh ... la boîte de recyclage?" I stuttered, trying to somehow mentally minimize the now completely hostile piece of perforated board that I was holding in my hand. "Uhh beh, non, nous n'en avons pas," (no, we don't have one) she responded, with a typical French shrug.

Not understanding, I searched through my Middlebury French 101 lexicon for the words for aluminum, cardboard and glass so as to better explain my predicament. Coming up empty, I went for the hooked-on-phonics comparison approach of my childhood:

"Not for garbage, but for ..." I said, flapping the cardboard emphatically. "Not for rotten vegetable peels (pointing wildly), but for wine bottles ..."

My host mother, looking unamused, repeated that they didn't have a separate bin. Quel dommage (how sad) for the cardboard. There was no separate recycling bin.

Retreating to my room, embarrassed, I made the mental note to try and limit the number of questions that I posed to my host family members when I was unsure of the response. In part, I justified this practice as a method to try and avoid placing my own cultural biases on their behavior. In reality, I was clearly avoiding potential opportunities for us to learn from one another, in favor of saving my dignity.

The typical Middlebury ending to this article would be to chronicle how my progression with the language and the culture enabled me to become a new hyper-powered hybrid version of my former self, and to describe how I installed a fully functioning biomass treatment plant in my host family's kitchen in order to make up for lost time. But study abroad is not typical, and personalities, habits and cultural biases are not changed in a day.

This being the green issue of the *Campus*, I am sorry to report that I have not yet treated my French family to an eco-intervention. We, like so many other French families, continue to destroy the universe one piece d'aluminium, boîte en carton and verre at a time.

In reconnecting to the Middlebury community in order to write this article however, I have begun to see the amazing work that students are doing on campus in the fields of environmentalism, social justice and community safety.

Change is not a comfortable process, regardless of language, customs, or prevailing attitudes. And while it is easy to allow one's morals to slip when cut loose from the mothership, to hell with my excuses. I will do better. Cardboard boxes be warned.

## Damage includes landscaping, dishes

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

According to the 2010-11 Student Damage Report, the fire caused over \$25,000 in damage, including \$18,055 for elevator repairs and service.

High dorm damage totals have a very real affect on Facility Services' ability to fix everyday problems in student dorms, according to Cushman.

Responding to dorm damage every year costs the equivalent of employing two full-time staff members.

"That's two people who could be doing other things," he said. "Students will call and say 'why isn't my shade fixed?' and that's because staff members are out there fixing dorm damage."

### Landscaping damage

The five-year rise in dorm damage included a rash of landscape damage to trees and shrubs across campus.

"Most years, you'll get a broken branch here and there, but last year it was 10 or 12 weekends in a row that something died or got broken," said College Horticulturist Tim Parsons. "Based on last year, I raised the red flag and said we've got to start paying attention to this."

Cushman said that landscape damage is a relatively new contributor to dorm damage. He said he first started noticing it three or four years ago.

"[Landscape damage] never used to happen," he said. "We would have students in the past put furniture and banners in trees, but just maliciously destroying the vegetation, that's new."

Parsons said two "thick" birch trees by the Atwater Retention Pond that were pulled out of the ground stuck in his mind.

"It struck me to go through all that work to rip out a tree, that's not a game, that's rage," he said.

Parsons said landscape damage has decreased this year, with only three major incidents of damage this year.

### Dish damage

The rise of dorm and landscape damage has been paralleled by a rise in dish damage.

Students are allowed to take some food out of the dining halls, but Director of Dining Services Matthew Biette said many of those dishes are not returned, prompting a dish shortage at the College.

"People ask, 'Where are the bowls?' We didn't hide them on you!" he said. "I find it absurd and insulting that some people are taking advantage of what we have."

Biette said that rising dish prices, inflation, and a flat-lined budget keep a ceiling on the amount of new dishes he can buy. As a result, new dishes bought have not kept pace with dishes lost.

The current yearly budget of \$38,583 for all dishware has not increased in the last seven years. Mugs have risen from 75 cents to \$1.75, glasses have risen 70 cents, and the round china plates have ballooned to \$7.50 apiece.

"Chasing inflation is hard, [but] chasing stupidity is even harder," he said. "It's not just theoretical thought, it's action."

Many students leave plates in bathrooms and various other places around the College, but Biette said by the time they get back to the dining halls, many of them are unusable.

"The plates that are filled with food and not returned become Petri dishes," he said.

The used plates are soaked in caustic solution for a couple days, and then put through the dishwasher before being hand washed by dining hall employees.

"There are times when dishes come back and they are so disgusting we have to throw them out," he said.

Biette laid partial blame on the importance the current generation places on movement.

"This is a residential College with a residential dining program designed for you to eat at a table with your friends during the meal," he said. "The table is a great place to recharge, but everyone is always moving, so people take the

food and dishware with them."

Biette, who has been at the College for 14 years and director of dining services for nine years, said that while dish damage has long been present, it has gotten worse in recent years.

### Community solution

Spears emphasized that no matter what kind of damage, the solution must be shared by all members of the community.

"We place great value on community here," he said. "It shouldn't just be an administrative thing like, 'Look what the students did, now you have to pay for it.' Dorm damage really is a shared problem since everyone ends up paying for it somehow."

Biette posed the solution as a challenge to the student body.

"Could our actions save money and make the comprehensive fee go down?" he said. "If we do away with: 'I'm going to take my car and buzz across this lawn and do donuts, I'm going to yank down trees, I'm going to tip over this vending machine because I want a snack and I don't have a buck and I'm going to leave this pile of trash here because I don't have to pick it up,' we could save a lot of money."



Despite some preliminary improvements compared to last year, scenes like this from Coffin hall continue to frustrate students and staff alike this year.

Courtesy of Linda Ross, Facilities Services



college  
shorts

by, Camille Kenny, Staff Writer

NC State professor  
explores algae as fuel

Assistant Professor of Plant Biology at North Carolina State University Heike Winter-Sederoff has begun to research the bio-fuel potential of a type of algae and of the camelina seed, a type of mustard plant.

The algae, *Dunaliella salina*, naturally produces oils that are similar to petroleum in how they burn. Using algae-based biofuel could serve as a complete replacement of petroleum fuels. The algae being used in experimentation grows in seawater and therefore will not deplete sources of freshwater.

Camelina seed seems to be a promising fuel source as it easily grows in less than ideal conditions. Poor soils, lack of fertilizer, and dry climates are no hindrance to the camelina seed's ability to thrive. Neither algae nor camelina compete with the food supply like Ethanol.

— UWIRE

Dorms evacuated at  
Md. college for mold

Recently, several dorms at St. Mary's College of Maryland have been evacuated because of mold issues. Around 250 displaced Maryland students will take up residence in a cruise ship. The ship, *The Sea Voyager*, will remain docked in the St. Mary's River.

During the start of the fall semester, the dorms were deemed "uninhabitable" by a doctor who inspected the spaces, and officials suspect that rain from Hurricane Irene greatly contributed to the mold problem.

The school administration was pressed to find temporary housing, and the cruise ship seemed a fitting option. The college prides itself on a reputation for being a "center of scholarship and sailing" and renting the ship is cheaper than paying for hotel rooms for students.

— The Huffington Post

U. Chicago hosts Jersey  
Shore conference

On Friday, Oct. 28, the University of Chicago hosted an academic conference on MTV's *Jersey Shore*. Chicago student David Showalter organized this conference, designed to appeal to scholars of several disciplines.

The conference received notable media attention, including a mention by talk show host Jimmy Kimmel. The event included keynote speeches such as "You're not Even Italian: Stereotype, Authenticity, and the Warped Reality of Jersey Shore" and panels on the construction of the Guido identity. There were also presentations of several papers, such as "GTL (Gym, Tan, Labor): Reproducing Labor-Power on the Shore" and "Foucault's Going To The Jersey Shore, Bitch!"

Showalter hoped to use this conference as a gateway to the exploration of popular culture and to inspire students to pursue all types of research interests.

— The Huffington Post

## Trustees learn about student experience

By Adam Schaffer  
NEWS EDITOR

Trustees of the College came to campus Oct. 20-22 to discuss and vote on various developments at the College. Unique this year was the retreat's focus on the "life cycle of a Middlebury student," wrote President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz in an all-campus email.

The weekend began with presentations from 16 students on various aspects of life at the College, ranging from stress to the weekend social scene to the difficulties experienced by some students of color.

"[The trustees] were incredibly interested in what we had to say," wrote Brittany Gendron '12 in email. Gendron presented on first-year orientation programs and fielded questions on the minimal sleep students receive from an audience she described as "sympathetic" to the stress inherent in a Middlebury education.

"Their sincere curiosity and attention to all of the students throughout the day ... was highly appreciated by everyone," she added.

The trustees were equally appreciative of the frank conversations had throughout the weekend.

"Overall, the feedback from trustees was very positive, not only in terms of [the panel presentations] but also the confidence and honesty the student presenters displayed throughout the retreat," Chairman of the Board of Trustees Frederick M. Fritz '68 wrote in an email.

What was learned over the weekend, Fritz added, will continue to influence decision-

making for time to come.

"The breadth of topics presented, from application, then college life and finally post-Middlebury, provided a constructive profile of our challenges along with high points," he wrote.

Continuing this theme of showing both the triumphs and struggles experienced by Middlebury students, Dean of Wonnacott Commons Matt Longman and Dean of Brainerd Commons Natasha Chang "talked about the personal challenges some students face at Middlebury, the issues they sometimes bring with them from home and how the College tries to address them," Liebowitz wrote his email.

The rest of the weekend was dedicated to individual committee meetings, and concluded with a full board meeting Saturday.

Trustees were updated on the state of the College's endowment, which showed impressive gains in fiscal year 2011 — July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011 — though a four percent loss in the most recent quarter due to the market downturn.

Following a recommendation by the Graduate and Special Programs Committee, the trustees approved the creation of a program to teach English as a second language at Salve Regina University in Rhode Island. The program will be called Middlebury-Monterey Summer Intensive College English and will be run by the College's Monterey Institute for International Studies. The trustees also approved the committee's recommendation to open a C.V. Starr-Middlebury School Abroad

in Cameroon. The school will be the College's first in francophone Africa, and will begin accepting students in 2012.

"As a professor of francophone literatures, I personally find it exciting that students will become more aware of the fact that French is not just spoken in France, but [also] in many other countries," wrote Chair of the French Department and Director of the International Studies Africa Program Armelle Crouzières-Ingenthron in an email.

Students will be provided a unique immersion program, she added, as the "Yaoundé site in Cameroon [where the school will be located] is an area where English is rarely spoken and heard, [and] Cameroon has far fewer study abroad programs than [neighboring] Senegal," another Francophone country in West Africa.

The trustees also approved the construction of a new field house to replace the "Bubble," pending further funding from gifts. The field house would include squash and potentially tennis courts.

Trustees were also provided results from a staff survey, which found an increase in job workload and stress in the past two years, concerns about equity in the workplace and reasonably positive job satisfaction.

"All in all, the weekend was successful, informative and productive for everyone involved," Liebowitz wrote in his email to the College community. Trustees felt the same, Fritz wrote, with many saying that it was the best retreat they had ever attended at the College.

## SGAupdate

by Ben Anderson, Staff Writer

## SGA discusses orientation programs and bike room

The Oct. 16 SGA meeting marked the first with newly-elected members Vincent Recca '12, president of the SGA, and First-Year Senators Rana Ahdelhama '15 and Danny Zhang '15.

The SGA discussed the progress of two projects that are both awaiting votes. The first was the Outdoor Introduction for New Kids (OINK) Bill that would extend the lifespan of the existing OINK program. The OINK Committee has set a date to meet with the administration to discuss the future of the program.

Next, Vice President for Administration Tim Spears met with the SGA. The SGA had asked Spears to meet with them to discuss Brian Foster '13's project, Cynirgy. At the previous meeting, the SGA met with Foster and now wanted to hear the administration's view of the project.

The administration has been working closely with Foster since last year to fine-tune the project to best complement existing internet services at the College. They believe that Cynirgy could be another piece in a step towards modernization on campus. Spears compared the project to existing social net-

working sites already online and believed this could be essentially a more personalized Facebook, exclusive to the College. While the administration was intrigued by the potential for student entrepreneurship, they also recognized the potential risk in investing in such a program. Because of this, they offered to fund half of Foster's project while the SGA covered the rest.

While there was some expressed interest in Foster's project on the part of the SGA, the fear still remained that the potential for success did not outweigh the large investment, especially considering similar projects such as MiddConfessional and MiddLabs that have yet to garner regular use.

The Oct. 30 meeting of the SGA began with the ratification of Recca's new Presidential Cabinet.

Next, Dean of Students Katy Smith Abbott gave a presentation on orientation trips on behalf of the administration. Old Chapel hopes that the SGA will fund OINK again next year and half of orientation trips for the next three years. After this, the goal is to make an off-campus orientation trip a part of orientation for all incoming students, in-

cluding athletes. However, this plan is still in its preliminary stages, as it would involve the cooperation of many different departments on campus.

Following the presentation, Astrid Schanz-Gargbassi '12 gave a presentation on the Green Revolution bike room project she has been working on since last year. Schanz-Gargbassi hopes to establish a room in Freeman International Center that will house exercise bikes that will generate electricity for all or some of the building. The hope is that this project will both promote on-campus fitness as well as help make the College more environmentally friendly.

In the past weeks, Schanz-Gargbassi sent a poll to students asking about their interest in such a project. Students received the idea very well, she said, and the SGA was equally impressed by the presentation and the results of the poll. Schanz-Gargbassi will be working on a bill asking the SGA for funding for the project in the near future.

Finally, the SGA discussed plans for a Town Hall-style meeting and forum to be held soon to discuss social life this semester at the College.

## public safety log

October 17 - 31, 2011

DATE	TIME	INCIDENT	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	DISPOSITION
10/17/11	9:32 a.m.	Theft	Backpack	Ross Commons Dining	Referred to DOC and Commons Deans
10/18/11	3:20 p.m.	Vehicular Collision	Hit and Run	Stewart	Referred to DOC and Commons Deans
10/21/11	9:02 p.m.	Fire Alarm Report	General Cooking	LaForce	Referred to Facilities Services
10/23/11	10:48 a.m.	Vandalism	Exit Sign	Battell	Referred to DOC and Commons Dean
10/25/11	8:04 a.m.	Fire Alarm	Spray Cleaner Discharge	Brackett	Referred to DOC and Commons Dean
10/26/11	8:00 a.m.	Welfare Check	Student Located Safely	Hepburn	Referred to DOC and Commons Dean
10/27/11	9:15 p.m.	Vandalism	Window	Pearsons	Referred to Commons Dean
10/29/11	2:00 p.m.	Theft	Trinity College Flag	T lot (Kenyon)	Referred to DOC and Commons Dean
10/29/11	5:03 p.m.	Vandalism Structure	Window Damage	Prescott	Referred to DOC and Commons Dean
10/29/11	4:19 a.m.	Disturbance	Noise	107 Shannon	Referred to DOC and Commons Dean
10/30/11	2:59 a.m.	Disturbance	Fight	DKE Alumni House	Referred to DOC and Commons Dean
10/30/11	2:59 a.m.	Fire Illegal Burn	Students igniting tennis balls on fire	Kelly	Referred to DOC and Commons Dean
10/31/11	5:57 a.m.	Burglary	Institutional	Freeman	Referred to DOC and Commons Dean

The Department of Public Safety reported giving 8 alcohol citations between October 17 and October 31, 2011.



# Funds committed to Green Challenge

By Jeremy Kallan  
STAFF WRITER

The College has begun the planning process for creating a Green Revolving Fund (GRF), a program that will provide loans for energy efficiency projects on campus. This fund is launched in conjunction with 32 other founding institutions in the Billion Dollar Green Challenge, an initiative organized by the Sustainable Endowments Institute (SEI) with the goal of investing a total of \$1 billion in self-managed GRFs.

The College's GRF is projected to be open for loan applications in early 2012, according to Jack Byrne, the director of the Office of Sustainability Integration.

GRFs have seen much success in recent years, as documented in an SEI study called "Greening the Bottom Line." The concept behind GRFs is to finance projects that cut back on energy costs. The savings go directly back into the fund and, in most cases, the loans are fully repaid within five years, according to the study. Future returns go back into the fund and continue to provide funding for more projects.

Byrne explained that the College's GRF will provide extensive funds for environmental projects that would otherwise be impossible.

"We have always been looking for ways to do projects that are difficult to do because of budget constraints," he said.

The College has completed energy efficiency projects in the past and seen great returns, but this fund will help with tracking the specific savings and reinvesting them into future projects. In addition, the independent GRF will be a fund source for opportunities that come up inside of a budget year.

Matt Birnbaum '12, however, expressed some skepticism as to the College's definition of "carbon neutrality" and its reasons for undertaking green initiatives.

"Would the ethical dimension of carbon

emissions have any standing ground at all if it did not save the college money?" he questioned in an email. "What does the 'green' in GRF mean? Is it about monied interests of the corporate entity (Middlebury College), a hip-social label that shows you are compassionate about 'the environment,' or [do the financial benefits] simply create an opening for [environmentalism]?"

Among the partners in the Green Chal-



Courtesy of  
The Billion Dollar Green Challenge seeks to direct endowment investment into green initiatives

lenge, there is currently around \$70 million invested in GRFs, with the College having pledged to raise a total of \$1 million over the next four years, according to Byrne. The fund will start with \$300,000 from an anonymous donation and the remaining \$700,000 will come primarily from fundraising, and the rest may come from the endowment or from capital budgeting.

This fund will provide not only the capital for a number of initiatives, but also the possibility of educational opportunities for students at the College. The hope, as expressed by Byrne, is that classes and student groups will be able to work with facilities staff to practically apply their innovative ideas for conservation.

In addition, Byrne hopes that the GRF will provide "a different kind of giving opportunity" for donors to the College. As opposed to contributions to the endowment, contributions to this fund will have more tangible and immediate effects, "so maybe that would appeal to someone who wouldn't otherwise give," he said.

Although the GRF will be managed by the College, cooperation with other institutions through the Green Challenge will provide many important resources. With 32 founding institutions and more joining in the future, "there is learning potential and people sharing experiences," said Byrne.

In addition, "SEI has partnered with the Vermont Energy Efficiency Utility to do a state-wide pilot project in Vermont ... a model for how to do a state-wide revolving loan fund," said Byrne. "Their expertise and assistance is available to us to help us in developing and promoting our fund. We will have access not only to their staff time and their experience with this, but also all the research they are doing."

Members of the College administration are currently creating a plan for pragmatically implementing this fund in the coming months.

"We have a number of questions to resolve about this," said Byrne. "The process for reviewing and approving loans has to be established, we have to decide if there will be an administrative fee on the loans or will there be low interest, what is the process for paying back loans ... There are a lot of details to nail down."

Once the process has been set in place, the next step involves communications and outreach for loan applications.

Once the funding, communication and documentation aspects of the project are established, Byrne hopes that the fund will be open to applications by the end of Winter Term.

## Midd brief

### Energy-producing bike room close to fruition

by Kelsey Collins, Staff Writer

After more than a year of planning, the energy-producing bike room spearheaded by Astrid Schanz-Garbassi '12 is close to fruition. The room is planned to be in the Freeman International Center (FIC).

Schanz-Garbassi's idea was inspired while doing an experiment in her first-year physics class, which involved spinning a wheel to induce currents through a wire. She wondered whether the experiment could be replicated using bicycles to produce electricity. She later learned that it was possible — and that people were doing it in universities across the country. After over a year of research and planning, Schanz-Garbassi formally proposed her plan to the SGA on Oct. 30.

The bike room would connect student fitness with the creation of clean energy on campus. The bike room would have 12 stationary bikes attached to generators, and by spinning the pedals, the bikes would be capable of harnessing the energy generated by cardio activity to create an electrical current.

One spinning class with all 12 bikes in use would create two to three kilowatt-hours of energy. As a frame of reference, the average American home uses 20,000 kilowatt-hours per year, but Self-Reliance, the Solar Decathlon house, is able to run on 6,500 kilowatt-hours a year.

"Depending on how many spinning classes we are able to offer and how many hours a day the room is open for individual use, the bike room would be capable of producing anywhere from 2,000 to 8,000 kilowatt hours in a year, which would offset a significant portion of the FIC's energy demand," explained Schanz-Garbassi.

Each cyclist will be able to see how much energy he or she is producing on a meter attached to the bike, and the room will include monitors that display how much energy has been generated per week, month and year.

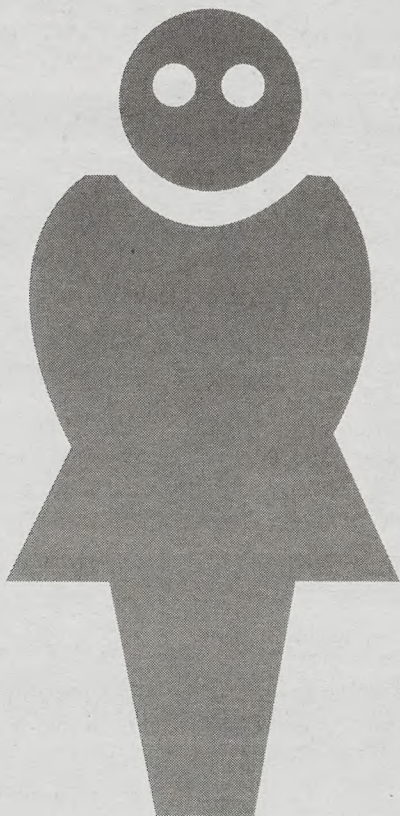
"It's a cool educational tool because it shows you how much energy you're creating and how difficult it is to create that energy," said Schanz-Garbassi. "For example, if you work out for an hour and you produce 200 watt-hours, that's only enough to power two light bulbs. It will make the difficulty of producing energy tangible."

To maximize student use of the bike room, Schanz-Garbassi envisions spinning classes taught by members of the College's cycling club, as well as making the room available to students as an alternative exercise space on campus. She has collected student feedback via a survey sent in a campus-wide email last Wednesday, and she reports that the results have been overwhelmingly positive.

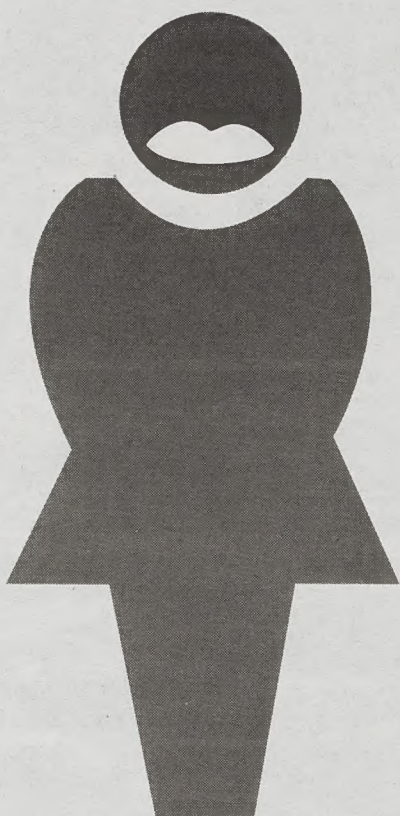
"This semester has been all about finding funding," she said. "Now that it looks like it's going to happen, I'm expanding and having more people work with me on the project, to have a few more sets of eyes and hands. I hope it will be up and running for the spring semester."

Students interested in getting involved should contact Astrid Schanz-Garbassi [aschanzg@middlebury.edu](mailto:aschanzg@middlebury.edu)

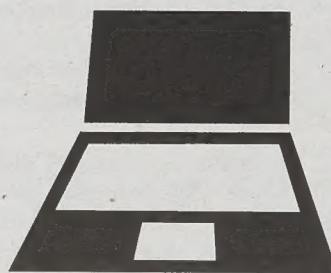
1 SEE  
SOMETHING



2 SAY  
SOMETHING



3 SEND  
SOMETHING



DO YOU  
HAVE A  
TIP OR AN  
IDEA FOR  
A STORY?

GO/THECAMPUS

[www.middleburycampus.com](http://www.middleburycampus.com)

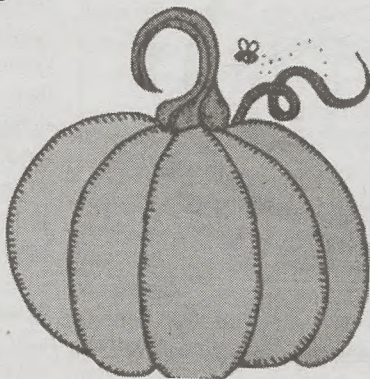
hot.



# Fabulous Phantoms at Middlebury

## Spooktacular

by Kaylen Baker  
Local News Editor



A snowflake princess scrambled over a haystack, catching up to a skeleton, as they both fought for first entrance into a cardboard tunnel, marked by long-dead faces from Middlebury's past. The skeleton emerged first, still in the lead, with the snowflake princess on his heels. They raced towards the finish line, weaving in and out of pumpkins on feet enclosed inside burlap sacks.

These costumed kids were two of the "hundreds and hundreds and hundreds of kids," that showed up to celebrate Middlebury's fourth Spooktacular festival, according to Nancie Dunn, the event's leader, as well as the executive secretary of the Better Middlebury Partnership which hosts this annual event.

Spooktacular took place on the Town Green on Saturday, Oct. 29. It was decorated for the occasion with carved and painted pumpkins, ghosts hanging from trees, balloons and a haunted gazebo. Volunteers from the town and the College worked at different fun booths, from a bouncy house and time capsule to a face painting stand and a scavenger hunt.

"The goal of Spooktacular is to provide a really fun event for local children," said Dunn. "It's all about the kids having fun."

They sure did, due to the success of the event. Children wandered in every which way, disguised as policemen, football players, Indians, witches, bananas, Harry Potter, chickens, gypsies and one very shiny, silver robot. Even the parents came dressed in colorful hats, dyed hair and striped goblin stockings.

"Honey, this will give you a good idea for what to be next year," said one woman leading along a disgruntled fairy.

From the gazebo came murderous melodies like "Thriller" and "The Adams Family Theme Song." Inside danced King George III, looking unusually similar to the Burger King mascot.

"Is everybody happy, happy happy?" he shouted occasionally into a megaphone, which echoed across the green. "Come and dance, if you are happy!"

As this year marks Middlebury's 250th anniversary, the Spooktacular festival incorporated historical facts and knowledge of the town into the activities as a way to teach the youngsters in the crowd about their heritage. Middlebury has King George III to thank for granting their charter in 1761. Back then the land was completely uninhabited by colonials, who began to settle and build up the town 15 years later.

Old-fashioned games such as "hoops and graces" and a pumpkin seed-bag toss allow the children a way to connect to this older era. The time capsule, a large white box with a slit in the top sitting in one corner of the green, received plenty of offerings from children and parents alike. One woman approached with her daughter, holding an envelope of photos and "a drawing we made" to drop inside.

Although children were encouraged to bring an item from home that symbolized their life, most forgot. Instead they filled out a form that asked simple questions like "What are you wearing today?" and "What is your favorite song?" The parents felt just as enthusiastic about the questionnaire, filling out their own sheets as well.

"The time capsule will be stored for 50 years at the Henry Sheldon Museum," said Donna Donahue, the president of the Better Middlebury Partnership. "These kids will be in their 50s and 60s when it's opened, and they'll get to hear their answers read out and remember how things have changed."

In the meantime, the kids were given a small pewter coin cast by Danforth Pewter to take home in remembrance. One side depicted the town and falls of Middlebury, while the other celebrated its anniversary.

"It's a nice commemorative of the day," said Donahue. "We'll put one in the time capsule too, so we remember what this was all about."

At 3:00 p.m. the children and parents paraded up and down Main Street, trick-or-treating at the doors of each shop, where local business owners held giant bowls of Snickers bars, tootsie rolls and lollipops.

"This really brings out the best of a small community," said Donahue. "All the retailers hand out candy on the whole street, and it's safe."

Besides Spooktacular, the Better Middlebury Partnership hosts three other annual events, one for each season. This past summer they held the Vermont Beer, Wine and Cheese Festival for an older crowd. In the first week of December they will host Very Merry Middlebury, a Christmas event comprised of wagon rides, a hot chocolate stand, a wreaths exhibit, carolers and a Santa with a lap to sit on. These events, along with the infamous spring Chili Festival, provide a fun way for families to get together in town.

"We think it creates a sense of community," said Donahue. "A lot of people can't spend money on entertainment, and this whole event is free."



Children and parents alike got into the spooky spirit this weekend, playing games and parading through town in Halloween garb.

Paul Gerard, Photos Editor



### Go green

Netaka White works with farms to produce biodiesel, fuel made from soybean, sunflower and canola seeds, page 6.

### French cuisine pleases taste buds

Café Provence, located in Brandon, offers customers myriad dishes, all with a French flavor, page 7.





## Farm Fresh



by Rachel Porter

Halloween has never been my favorite holiday, but despite past disenchantment, this year I was determined to embrace it. So I began Halloweekend 2011 with a trip to the Weybridge Gardens' Haunted Corn Maze.

Located 15 minutes from campus, Weybridge Gardens is home to Addison County's only corn maze and true to their mission statement they have successfully provided "seasonal outdoor family-oriented entertainment" for the last four years. The Haunted Corn Maze represents only one branch of the many opportunities at the gardens. Visitors can also enjoy hayrides and pumpkin throwing. A farm stand is close at hand to provide patrons with a wide selection of pumpkins and homemade treats.

Co-owner of Weybridge Gardens, Kris Bowdish, said that she enjoys creating the corn maze each year because "people love having something to do in Addison County," and she admits that Halloween has always been her favorite holiday. Maintaining the corn maze, though, is not simply for pleasure; it also reaps substantial economic benefits. Bowdish pursues her passion for harvesting by planting a variety of pumpkins and squashes each year; however, vegetable sales alone would not be enough to keep the Gardens open. Bowdish said it is the corn maze that "makes it possible to fund the growing of the vegetables."

Corn mazes are found on farms across the country. Many open in an effort to draw people to a farm and create a source of income, less dependent on the whim of Mother Nature. As Hurricane Irene showed us, crops can be destroyed in the blink of an eye, leaving farmers with an unrecoverable loss and ending the growing season without breaking even. According to an article published in *Delta Farm Press*, corn mazes are merely the latest manifestation of a method farmers have been relying on for generations — re-invention.

Randy Hardin, owner of Hardin Farms in Grady, Ark. said "re-invention" has kept his family farm alive for over 100 years.

"We were losing money in conventional farming and looking for alternatives in 1989 when the idea for the pumpkin patch was conceived," he said.

Pumpkin patches, corn mazes, haunted hayrides and pumpkin trebuchets all are efforts to draw tourists to the farm, generate revenue and in turn educate people about the ins and outs of modern day farming.

Simply put, it is business well-executed and a tribute to an industry that is often unrecognized for its ingenuity.

There is a lesson to be had in my trip to the corn maze. Yes, I should have worn taller boots (they weren't kidding about the mud!) and perhaps I should have screamed a little less when the 8-year-old dressed as Frankenstein jumped around the corner, but still there is something more important. The corn maze represents a farmer's attempt to use his resources to their fullest capacity. Farmers don't give up when the going gets tough. Instead, they get creative. Farmers depend on the earth to make ends meet, but there is not one of us alive who does not depend on this planet equally as much. So, I challenge you to think like farmers. How can we use the resources we have to re-invent our way of life? How can we alter our practices to make them to more sustainable and cost-effective? We have the tools to create the solution; we just need to utilize them.

Rachel Porter '13 is from Albany, N.Y.

## ACoRN to co-host money conference

By Charlotte Gardiner

LOCAL NEWS EDITOR

On Thursday, Nov. 10, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Addison County Relocation Network (ACoRN) will partner with the Addison County Economic Development Corporation and the Addison County Regional Planning Commission for the first Money Conference and Entrepreneurs Showcase. Titled "Financing the Working Landscape — Strategies for Matching and Mobilizing Local Capital," the conference will be held at the American Legion, located at 49 Wilson Road in town.

"This is an incredible learning opportunity for anyone interested in entrepreneurship and having conversations around how we finance the working landscape," said Jonathan Corcoran, the president of ACoRN.

Several sessions across the state and countless efforts by the Vermont Council of Rural Development determined certain key values affecting the lives of Vermonters today. Local, rural lands, ideally the fields and the forests, were highlighted as a top priority of the state. Echoing these results, a 2008-2009 survey by the Council on the Future of Vermont found that 97 percent of Vermonters endorsed the working landscape as a key to our future.

"How do we finance working landscape in a way that is sustainable and that the values we take for granted are sustained for future generations?" said Corcoran.

Spurring conversation about how to finance the working landscape is what Corcoran deems his job to be, which is why he is excited about the upcoming money conference. It is a chance to educate local entrepreneurs about different types of capital. In addition to 20 panelists, including Ken Perine from the National Bank of Middlebury, four case studies and an entrepreneur's showcase, there will be ample networking opportunities. This will allow those involved with food,

agriculture and forestry in the Champlain Valley to talk to regional capital providers.

Eight individuals were selected for the entrepreneur's showcase and each has three minutes to pitch their own idea.

"People are going to learn a lot and be exposed to a lot," said Corcoran. "People find each other and things happen. We are creating opportunities in terms of learning and creating connections and relationships."

The conference offers local entrepreneurs the opportunity to gain an in-depth understanding of what capital is and how they can attract it into their businesses. Corcoran hopes the day runs smoothly, so his local money model can be employed across the state. ACoRN has dealt with local food and energy for several years, but the organization is only now tacking its third leg — local money.

"Capital mobilizes energy and change," said Corcoran. "It has taken us a few years to get here, but I'm excited. I think the timing is good. I think people get what we are trying to do."

He hopes students will attend the conference, and they can register online at <http://www.acorn.vt.org> for \$20.

"This is real-life learning, right at your doorstep," he said. "This is a great opportunity for students to learn a lot quickly, to see the dynamic in action."

Lunch will be prepared and served by students at the Hannaford Career Center and Corcoran promises it will be a "robust meal."

He says that this conference will spark what is, according to him, "the future of the county," as the number of big corporate jobs continues to dwindle and entrepreneurs lay the path for the future.

"Look at the speakers — an amazing, diverse group of people, federal agencies and venture capitalists, collected from around the state and the New England area," said Corcoran. "It is going to be fun."

## one in 8,700

where the personalities of middlebury proper are celebrated

By Devin MacDonald

LOCAL NEWS EDITOR

Netaka White has always lived holistically. Since his teen years, he was interested in organic gardening and sustainability. This passion has extended in recent years, and White now has a professional investment to create a more sustainable Vermont.

He is the director of the Bioenergy Program at the Vermont Sustainable Jobs Fund (SJF). The road to his current position began in the 1990s.

"I had developed a company that had nothing to do with bioenergy," he said. "It was a hemp products company that distributed hemp accessories internationally."

An entrepreneur by profession, White has started several businesses in the non-profit sector. The hemp business he started was run out of Middlebury, and until he sold the company in 2002, he "had nothing to do with the energy business." By 2004, however, he and his friends began meeting with people around the state to learn about the biofuel business.

"I did not train as an engineer or chemist," said White. "It came along as an interest and passion and a desire to meet our community energy needs with local crops."

He was the executive director of the Vermont Biofuels Association (VBA) from 2004 to 2008. The association paired closely with ACoRN to help solve the global energy crisis on a local level. VBA's key goal was to integrate food and renewable fuels, thereby creating a self-sufficient local system.

With the increasing challenge of running an entire business, in addition to applying and looking for grants, White merged the VBA with Renewable Energy Vermont in 2008. That same year, the SJF hired him.

"The Sustainable Jobs Fund started the Vermont bioenergy initiative in 2005, which was funded through the department of energy through their biomass energy and efficiency program," he said.

The SJF receives grants federally and uses this money for research and further development of bioenergy feedstocks and fuels. It offers grants to farmers, so they can produce sunflower, soybean and canola seeds. After the oil is extracted from the seeds, the cake that is left over is used as livestock feed. This creates a self-sufficient and efficient process that farmers can use to both fuel their tractors and feed their livestock, without looking to outside sources.

Last year there were seven farms that participated in this program. The farms did not solely produce oil, but allotted certain acreage to grow their seeds. While the program began in 2005, this was the first year that White and his associates gathered data on the actual sustainability of the biodiesel process.

"We had enough data to look at a few important performance measurements to see if it was successful," he said. "We examined it from economic, environmental and energy-output standpoints."

The SJF, with the help of researchers at the University of Vermont, calculated whether farmers were saving money with biodiesel instead of buying diesel. They also evaluated whether there was a negative carbon emission and if more energy was produced than put into the system.

"The answer is very positive for all three," said White. "Right now we know that on average the farmers are playing \$2.81 a gallon for their biodiesel fuel."

Some of the farmers pay as little as \$1.71, and the prices will continue to drop as more oil is produced. The equipment, supplied to the farmers through SJF grants, has a lifespan of 20 to 30 years and eventu-

ally the cost of the equipment will outweigh money saved.

Another important finding was that the biodiesel production process is a carbon negative process. If farmers were using regular diesel, their carbon debt would be positive. Using the biodiesel, however, each farmer uses one ton less carbon per acre.

"That is about 60 to 70 percent less carbon than the national model for biodiesel," White said. "We're pretty excited about these results. Contrary to economic models, we're trying to show that small is beautiful and works here in Vermont. We have small farms growing at best 50 to 60 acre fields. Economically it's very feasible."

With the positive results and the proof that a biodiesel fuel system on farms is both feasible and beneficial, White is now working to spread the good news. The SJF is also crafting a series of instructional videos for farmers and local schools to educate all about the process and how to begin it. The video library is scheduled to go online next spring. Each video will be less than 10 minutes and will feature farmers giving basic introductions on how to plant and harvest the new crops. The idea to make a video came in response to the public.

"We are getting an increasing amount of questions and requests from people in other parts of the country," he said, and he believes it is only a matter of time before this phenomenon spreads nationally.

"Other farms in other states have already endeavored to duplicate this process," he said. "Rural communities, no matter the scale, can do this. The main thing is that this is a local production of crops and fuels for local use."

At this very moment, White and the SJF are looking into other more fuels sources to use. The most exciting, perhaps, is algae. Although a complicated process and still in its experimental phases, algae has the potential to be an effective biofuel source. It is a rapid reproducer and on a given acre of land, either by a green house or on a covered pond, algae can produce thousands of gallons of fuel per year. Right now, soybean, sunflower and canola seeds are producing about 60 to 80 gallons of oil a year.

The goal within the next five years for the existing biodiesel process is to produce a million gallons of oil in Vermont in a growing season for use and sale through the state. If the algae system becomes operational, which could happen in the next decade, it could yield up to 40 million gallons a year.

"We're feeling like the case is being made by the producers out there, and we can help them with the start-up costs," said White. "The economic and environmental case has been made for small scale production of energy."

He will continue to work towards a self-sufficient and sustainable Vermont, and every day he "learns at least as much as [he] teaches or advocates." To get involved in the move toward biodiesel and a sustainable world, White urges all to visit <http://www.vsjf.org/projects/1/>



Devin MacDonald

Netaka White is dedicated to making Vermont a sustainable state.



# Snow Bowl prepares for season opener

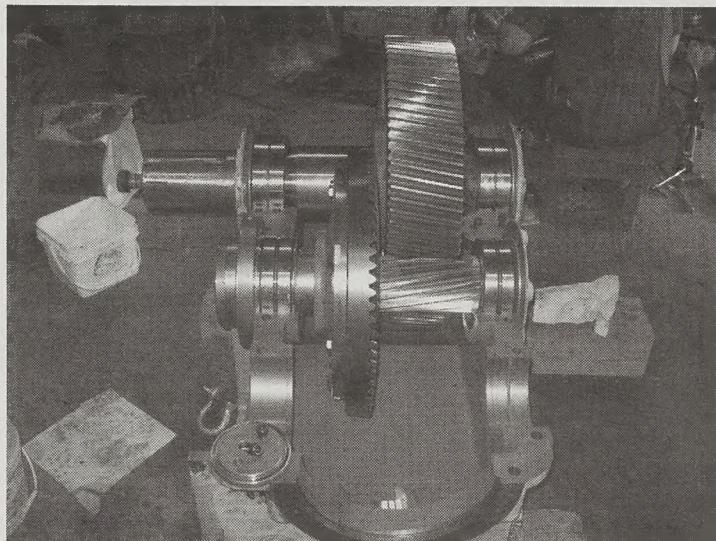
By Molly Talbert  
STAFF WRITER

Although the days are getting shorter and colder and all of the leaves are falling off the trees, there is still a glimmer of hope — the ski season is almost here. One of the best parts about the ski season at Middlebury is that the College has its own ski slope at the Snow Bowl.

This year the Snow Bowl is enacting a new policy that will make skiers and snowboarders alike happy. There is now going to be “boundary to boundary access.”

“Not only will skiers and riders have access to our usual 125 acres of trails and designated glades,” said manager of the Snow Bowl, Peter Mackey. “We’re also opening up access to all the woods within our boundaries.”

This means that there is now going to be over 500 acres of wood-



With 375 new acres of wooded terrain for skiers and boarders, Snow Bowl manger Peter Mackey is excited for the mountain to open. ed terrain to shred this winter.

“As we’ve added glades to the trail map, and people used those areas, they ended up going off the trail map,” said Mackey, explaining the reasoning behind the change.

The new wooded area is different than the glades that people are used to skiing. The Snow Bowl trims trees in the glades while these new wooded areas are just that — wooded with no clean up by the managers at the Bowl.

Even though skiers and riders now have access to these previously excluded areas, it is important to keep safety in mind, especially since they are not patrolled the way the slopes are.

“Don’t go in alone or after 3 o’clock,” said Mackey. “And don’t go in if you’re a beginner.”

Fortunately there will be signs posted, warning people of the conditions before they descend into these wooded areas.

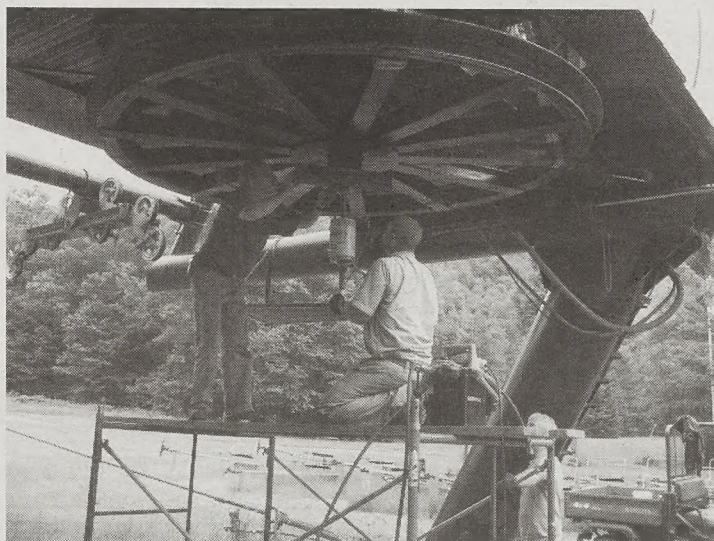
Another thing to keep in mind is that access to these areas is “very snow dependent,” said Mackey.

Lucky for Middlebury, this winter is supposed to be another snow-heavy one. Although not as intense as last winter, there is a projected above average snowfall this year.

No excuses for not going to the Bowl this year, especially during Winter Term when the Ski Bum races start every Friday at 1 p.m., followed by an après ski party at the base of the mountain.

As an extra incentive to get outdoors, the Snow Bowl is carbon neutral and even offsets the carbon its patrons spend traveling there.

This is not a new stance — the Bowl has been carbon neutral for six years — but it is a relatively unknown fact and still impressive.



Molly Talbert

“We were the first area in the whole country to offset our carbon output in such a serious way,” said Mackey.

Most areas do offset their carbon output, which for ski slopes are inherently heavy, but are not yet carbon neutral.

The Bowl has efficient lighting, low-flow toilets and special compressors that conserve energy and water. To offset the rest of the carbon output, the Bowl buys credits from a company in Charlotte, Vt. that invests in green projects, such as wind farms.

One of the best aspects is that “we’ve never factored money [for our carbon offsets] in the price of the ticket,” said Mackey.

So, when the snow really begins to pile up, tune those skis or board and get ready for this winter. Enjoy it at the Bowl, guilt-free of carbon output.

## Brandon’s Café Provence satisfies all

By Becca Coleman  
STAFF WRITER

Located just 17 miles south of Middlebury in Brandon, Café Provence serves up a breath of southern France air. Founded by Chef Robert and his wife Line Barral, who hail from the Provence region of France, the restaurant reflects the owners roots through their refined taste for food. The restaurant offers a great variety of fare to choose from.

Since moving, the Barrals have become invested in Vermont and all it has to offer culturally and gastronomically. They make a conscious effort to use local ingredients and products in their dishes, and participate as active members of the Vermont Fresh Network, a network that “develops solutions for chefs and farmers to market more locally grown food,” according to their website. The network allows the Barrals to collaborate with local farms, who sell the restaurant products, such as cheese and beef. Spotted Dog Farm and Otter Creek are only a couple of examples of farms the restaurant works with, and many other ingredients are locally based or homemade, such as their maple syrup, Cabot cheese and breads.

French culture permeates the restaurant, from posters decorating the walls to signs for the toilets written in *le langue Française*. The restaurant may be in downtown Brandon, but the atmosphere provides a level of sophistication and culture that one does not often find in rural Vermont.

The food itself tastes simply outstanding. Signature dishes include



the tomato pie salad full of pesto, goat cheese, tomatoes and mesclun greens, and the egg white frittata, a huge hit at brunch. The award-winning “chocolate bombe” never disappoints; its warm gooey center and light vanilla ice cream perfectly complement each other, while the chocolate and raspberry sauces surrounding it add a delectable bonus. Café Provence offers a selection of coffee and teas, and runs a bakery next door, which most days sells an even greater variety of tea and coffee along with a selection of pastries. A special gluten-free menu provides a number of options for diners who often cannot eat out due to the lack of non-allergic dishes.

Brightened by the French paintings and signs, Café Provence very much remains a Brandon cornerstone, where many families come to eat for lunch, brunch and dinner. Diners can sit inside at window tables looking out on to the street below, or at a lovely bar, while another room of booths has a quieter, more intimate feel. It’s a lovely spot to have a tranquil and relaxing meal with good company.

College students, whether they are enthusiastic about eating gourmet provincial fare, enthusiastic to support the local dining businesses and by default local farmers of Vermont, hoping to impress their visiting parents or simply itching to get off campus and out of Middlebury for the night, should dine out at Café Provence. The restaurant is open every day of the week except Monday, and it is certainly worth the trip on a beautiful Saturday or Sunday morning. The Café hopes to see many students in the near future.



Becca Coleman

The “chocolate bombe” and egg white frittata are favorite dishes, especially for College students enjoying a Sunday brunch with friends.

## local lowdown

### 250th birthday party

Nov. 4, 5 p.m. – 7 p.m.

The Town Hall Theater is hosting a party for Middlebury’s 250th birthday! Entertainment and refreshments will be available. The event is hosted by the National Bank of Middlebury President Ken Perine and Jan Albers, a Vermont historian and author. The event will end with a fife and drum parade leading to the Cross Street Bridge to watch fireworks. The festivities are free of charge. For more information please visit <http://www.townhalltheater.org/THTcalendar.html>.

### Murder mystery comedy dinner

Nov. 5, 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Rutland’s South Station Restaurant will be transformed when the Brandon Town Players perform their fifth murder mystery comedy dinner event, titled “Murder on the High Seas.” Dinner at 6 p.m., with the show following suite, will be offered to all for \$35 a person. All are encouraged to wear “cruise wear” and call 802-345-3033 to reserve a seat.

### Ripton community coffee house

Nov. 5, 7:30 p.m.

Join others at the Ripton Community House, located on Route 125, for music and drinks. Phil Henry’s acoustic trio will perform, in addition to other featured performers. Open mic does begin at 7:30 p.m., but it is best to call ahead and reserve a time slot. Admission is \$9 for adults, \$6 for seniors and teens and \$3 for children. While the community house is wheelchair accessible, the bathrooms do not accommodate these chairs. For more information, call Andrea Chesman or Richard Ruane at 802-388-9782, or Beth Duquette at 802-453-520.

### Let Them Play 5 and 10K

Nov. 6, 8:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Head to the New Haven Town Hall and Beeman Elementary School to go for a run and support a good cause. The race starts at 10 a.m. and loops in and around New Haven. All proceeds from the event will help pay for repairs needed on several of the town’s playing fields. There will be prizes awarded after the race, so come out and compete! For more information or for entry forms please call 802-453-7670 or email Scott Reiss at [scott\\_reiss@hotmail.com](mailto:scott_reiss@hotmail.com).

### Yoga and meditation

Nov. 6, 4 p.m. – 6 p.m.

Come down to Otter Creek Yoga in the Marbleworks for Middlebury’s monthly yoga and meditation session. A reading of the five Mindfulness Trainings of Thich Nhat Hanh will take place, and all levels are welcome. Please bring a donation, and call 802-388-1961 with questions.

### “Westward Ho” history talk

Nov. 8, 12 p.m. – 1 p.m.

During the time of America’s westward expansion, Vermont countrymen traveling West wrote letters back home to their loved ones. Susan Peden of the Henry Sheldon Museum will read these long-preserved letters aloud. Bring a lunch, \$2 entrance fee and enjoy free desserts. For more information call 802-388-2117.



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## Editorial

The staff editorial represents the official opinion of The Middlebury Campus as decided by the editorial board.



This past Monday, the world population hit seven billion. Seven billion. That is an awesome number in every meaning of the word. It is incredible to contemplate the human ingenuity and technological advances that have allowed us to reach this milestone. And yet, it is even more terrifying to consider the consequences of this growth. Headlines from *The New York Times*, the BBC, *Washington Post*, and CNN throw out words like disconcerting, troubling, serious worry and resource watch.

Though it can be difficult to envision the mounting pressures of population in the midst of Middlebury, Vermont, conversations about the earth's carrying capacity are being conducted with increasing levels of anxiety. And some project that within 90 years we'll hit the 10 billion benchmark — that's 50 percent more people than existed at the turn of the century competing for the same real estate.

No matter what your beliefs are about the environment, we can all agree on this: the world in which we live is crowded and getting more so everyday. This is a reality of our generation. And it is in the spirit of this challenge that we have decided once again to devote our pages to the impressive green initiatives that are taking place across this campus.

We understand that despite all its immense good, Middlebury's brand of environmentalism can sometimes be intimidating or even overwhelming to the point of off-putting. What we hope to accomplish here is just to provide an opportunity to discuss these issues, and for those interested, to serve as a resource outlining what we can do as both individuals and as a student body.

In line with Middlebury's long-standing commitment to environmental study and policy, the College continues to promote and support green initiatives on all scales. Each year the opportunities for hands-on learning expands, preparing interested students for a changing global job market. In our news section, you'll find articles covering a whole range of environmentally-minded projects, from the installment of the Solar Decathlon house to the College's stated commitment of funds to new initiatives and future plans for the use of passive solar in campus buildings.

And beyond the institutional framework of the College, there are countless examples of student organizations and grassroots efforts working to the same end — look for an article about a student's efforts to create a new bike room or just show up at an SNG meeting this weekend.

With all of this activity, we at the *Campus* wanted to do our part to recognize the College's collective sustainability goals. So, beyond committing the majority of our content to green issues, this morning at 6:30 a.m. our staff delivered all copies around campus on foot.

For those of you concerned with the somewhat inherent hypocrisy of a print paper devoting an issue's content to the people working to reduce both individual and collective carbon footprints, let us just say: we are with you. Every year this dilemma is a point of serious debate. But as a college publication — one of the only forms of reporting left that has a larger print following than online audience — we thought it would be a disservice to both our writers and readers to limit the discussions on such an important topic. In this effort, we ask for your help. When you're finished with this copy, please partake in a bit of communal recycling and leave it for the next person. In doing so, you'll be a part of a larger community that believes a little bit can go a long way and that, when it comes to the environment, it can be as effortless as a simple show of respect.

The *Middlebury Campus* (USPS 556-060), the student newspaper of Middlebury College, is published by The Middlebury Campus Publications. Publication is every Thursday of the academic year, except during official college vacation periods and final examinations. Editorial and business offices are located in Hepburn Hall Annex, Middlebury College. The *Middlebury Campus* is produced on Apple Macintosh computers using Adobe InDesign CS5 and is printed by the Press Republican in New York. The advertising deadline for all display and classified advertising is 5 p.m. Friday for the following week's issue. Mailing address: The Middlebury Campus, Drawer 30, Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vt., 05753. Business phone: (802) 443-5737. Please address distribution concerns to the Business Director. First class postage paid at Middlebury, Vt., 05753.

## Letter to the Editor: Leslie Blair Gratitude from the town of Hancock

To the editor:

The community of Hancock wishes to thank Middlebury College and the many athletic teams and individual volunteers who came so readily to the aid of our townspeople in the wake of Tropical Storm Irene. Your energetic and cheerful help in cleaning up flooded and damaged homes not only made our lives more livable in an immediate and practical sense, but it also boosted morale in a way that is difficult to measure: you reminded us that help isn't far off when there are caring neighbors — even those whom we have never met and who live a mountain pass away (with detours, no less). We will appreciate and remember this, both thinking back and going forward.

The teams who made their way over the back roads of Middlebury Mountain to assist in the Hancock recovery included field hockey, volleyball, football and softball players, in addition to men's crew and an "OINK trip" (an outdoor orientation trip for new first-year students). We are grateful to each of you. Finally, our thanks go to Tiffany Nourse Sargent, Director of Civic Engagement, and the student coordinators who organized volunteer efforts. Your teamwork was an inspiration to us all.

LESLIE BLAIR, WRITING ON BEHALF OF THE HANCOCK EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT TEAM, IS FROM HANCOCK, VT.

## The Id and the Eco: Rhiya Trivedi Follow the money

This campus' showing of solidarity with Occupy Wall Street, Boston, New York, Washington, D.C., Cleveland, Oakland and Sacramento has lifted my spirits in recent weeks. The potential importance of young people realizing the extent to which their privilege is a rare by-product of an exploitative system is not lost on me. This frustration has immense potential to bring about change on elite campuses such as ours; its rightful place lies, I believe, in opposition to the current state of our endowment.

Because just as the Occupy protestors have been duped for decades into working within a system that does not work for them, just as they have no idea where their hard-earned tax dollars have gone if not to their own health care, employment and retirement, we have not a clue where our endowment is or is going. We hear about it constantly; we lamented the crushing blow it received in 2008 with the collapse of Lehman Brothers and we benefit from it every day (all Middlebury students receive a scholarship on the order of \$26,000 to compensate for costs uncovered by our tuition). But we have not a clue where or with whom it is invested.

Which leads me to worry as to the infinite number of wrongful acts our endowment could be committing, every second. Cluster bombs, rare earth metal mining, oil drilling in war zones, Amazonian clear-cutting, palm oil production, mountain top removal mining and sweatshop labor all come to mind as profitable activities that run contrary to our environmental commitment and community ethic.

We can be the most educated, worldly, refined individuals, but we are nothing if that sophistication comes at the price of environmental destruction and human rights violations in communities that are not our own. We can go on to devote our lives to positive change in civil society, government and the private sector, but that work is nothing if it is the product of investment in corporations and governments committed to the opposite. We can champion ideals of justice, equality, and inclusion but they are empty gestures if every day we endorse entities for whom it is profitable to perpetuate injustice, inequality and exclusion.

We need greater transparency. We need a community-wide conversation on what ethical and sustainable investing means to us and we need to invest our endowment with a manager that is responsive to an evolving list of limitations and guidelines. But more than anything, we need a campus-wide movement focused on the long-term issues of investing the endowment.

For a long time, there has been a small, scrappy, invested (no pun intended) group of students working on improving our state of affairs (the Advisory Committee on Socially Responsible Investment). And it is precisely the group's small size that has allowed the administration to essentially get away with inaction.

On May 18, 2010, as students were packing up and heading out for the summer, Old Chapel, in partnership with the Rockefeller Brothers Fund and Dickinson College, announced the Sustainable Investments Initiative: "a commingled fiscal vehicle seeking investments that generate long-term social, environmental and economic value." The College invested \$4 million (approximately 0.5% of the endowment) alongside RBF's \$35 – 70 million.

Currently, only the ACSRI has any information as to the whereabouts of money invested

to-date — every month, they receive information regarding the top ten holdings of the already allocated \$2.5 million. They have no authority to contest investment choices made by Investure (the manager), no right to share the holding information, nor are they privy to the details of Investure's sustainable investing criteria or screens.

We need a full-fledged movement so that this type of inaction marketed as action is no longer possible. If we're serious about our values as individuals and a community; if we truly are committed to positive social change, it's time we put our money where our mouth is.

Want to find out more about the Socially Responsible Investing Club? Contact [bchute@middlebury.edu](mailto:bchute@middlebury.edu).

RHIYA TRIVEDI '12.5 IS FROM ONTARIO, CANADA.

## campus policies and information

The Opinions pages of *The Middlebury Campus* provide a forum for constructive and respectful dialogue on substantive issues. With this in mind, *The Campus* reserves the right to deny publication of all or part of a submission for any reason. This includes, but is not limited to: the making of assertions based on hearsay; the relation of private conversations; the libelous mention of unverifiable events; the use of vulgar language or personal attacks. Any segment of a submitted article that contains any of the aforementioned will be removed before publication. Contributors will be allowed to reference prior articles published in the Opinions section or announcements for the public record. If a reference is made to prior articles, the submission will be considered a letter to the editor. *The Campus* will not accept or print anonymous letters. The opinions expressed by contributors to the Opinions section, as well as reviews, columns, editorial comics and other commentary, are views of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the newspaper. *The Campus* welcomes letters to the editor at 250 words or less, or opinions submissions at 800 words or less. Submit works directly to the Opinions Editors, Drawer 30, [campus@middlebury.edu](mailto:campus@middlebury.edu) or via the paper's web site at [www.middleburycampus.com](http://www.middleburycampus.com). To be considered for publications, submissions must be received by 5 p.m. Sunday. *The Campus* reserves the right to edit all submissions.



## Elephant in the Room: Katie Earle

## The green jobs scam

It does not bode well for Obama's reelection in 2012 that the percentage of unemployment in America, and not his poll numbers, remains persistently high. The advent of the Tea Party and the Occupy Wall Street movements, which respectively reject politics and capitalism as usual, reveal an absence of the hope and change that Obama promised in his presidential campaign. In an attempt to recapture the "Yes We Can" mentality, Obama has administered a hefty dose of liberal ideology into his economic projects, to the detriment of America's road to recovery.

The clean-energy agenda has proven to be as unsuccessful of a job creator as his stimulus package, which failed to produce the shovel-ready jobs that dominated Obama's rhetoric at the beginning of his term. Obama continues to waste taxpayer money in order to fulfill his grand ambition to create five million green jobs in 10 years. The most glaring example of his administration's mismanagement of taxpayer money is the ongoing Solyndra scandal. Obama's Recovery Act included a \$535 million loan guarantee to the solar panel producer. Just over a year after the loan was approved,

Solyndra filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection and laid off more than 1000 employees. Despite concerns for the fiscal solvency of the company, the Obama administration hurried the analysis of the company's financials in order to provide a photo op for Obama's green agenda last year. Solyndra, touted as an example of America's future competitive advantage in clean energy, has fanned the flames of Republican criticism that Obama's liberal agenda only jeopardizes America's economic recovery.

In a free-market economy, private investors should be able to choose the winners and losers. However, the Department of Energy and the Obama Administration have attempted, and failed, to take on the role of venture

capitalists. The bankruptcy of Solyndra is just one example of numerous green projects that have failed, despite hefty government handouts. For instance, Evergreen Solar Inc. has also filed for bankruptcy and moved production to China after receiving \$5.3 million of stimulus funds. This pattern of big government's inability to choose profitable companies indicates that green jobs will not be the answer for the millions of unemployed Americans.

During his visit to Solyndra, Obama boasted that the future was here and that America was poised to transform the way people power their homes, cars and businesses. However, Obama's attempt to innovate the American economy and create jobs by promoting clean energy

has exposed that a government-led effort to create green jobs only results in a red economy. Need another example? The Spanish administration admitted that its effort to create green jobs substantially increased electricity prices and exacerbated the country's debt because of the additional cost of solar and wind energy. A further study concluded that every green job created in Spain was followed by the loss of 2.2 private

sector jobs. Similarly in the United States, Obama's clean energy agenda has miserably failed in creating job growth. A staggering statistic by the Energy Department exposed that each permanent green job created at the now-bankrupt Solyndra cost the American taxpayers \$5.5 million. In comparison, the average American earns less than \$50,000 a year. But as the 2012 election approaches, Obama will most likely proceed with his green job manifesto in order to appease his liberal base, despite its utter lack of success.

KATIE EARLE '12 IS FROM  
BEDMINSTER, N.J.

## campusopinions

## Op-ed: Ben Wessel

## What I learned at college

When I applied to Middlebury, I wanted to be a theater major. In high school, I was one of those kids: in class until 3:30, then off to sports practice (more often than not, doing the preliminary stretching and two laps around the field, followed by a couple hours of bench-sitting and gossiping), and then three hours of rehearsal for whatever the upcoming show was: *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Michael Frayn's *Noises Off* and cruelly, a two-man show called *The Kabalistic Psychoanalysis of Adam R. Tzaddik*. Upon receiving my acceptance letter to Middlebury and really digging into the College's website, it seemed there was something happening at the tiny school in Vermont that excited me more than my forays into the theatrical. Midd Kids were starting a movement.

The first person I met from Middlebury was May Boeve '07. The date was April 14, 2007 and I had dragged my parents and a group of friends from high school down to the National Mall to participate in an event called Step It Up, a nationwide day of action to call attention to climate change. Started by seven Middlebury students (including May), Step It Up managed to cobble together over 1000 actions across the country in the largest display of support for climate action in the country to date. For me, I remember that day less for its political implications than for the advice May gave me when I introduced myself to her at the after-party that night (open bar + high school seniors not getting carded = liquid courage): "When you get to Midd, go to SNG."

A little research that summer taught me that SNG stood for Sunday Night Group, Middlebury's environmental and social action group. So there I was, my first weekend at College, cramming into the Grand Salon of Le Chateau surrounded by other idealistic and naïve freshmen looking to make a difference. For the next 90 minutes, I saw for the first time what college is really all about. Some people were ditching their homework to talk about throwing solar panels up on a college-owned house. Others were planning a trip to D.C. to team up with youth activists across the country to lobby Congress to pass a clean energy bill. A few were discussing creating a focus in the ES major dedicated to environmental justice. Still more were talking about bikes. Nothing specific, just having a discussion about bikes. On the walk back to Battell, I talked

to a fellow freshman about how stoked we were that people were committed to a cause. It didn't matter to us what it was, but just the simple fact that they were excited got us excited. That conversation turned into my first freshman fling — it was a good night overall.

Four years later, I still get inspired every Sunday around 10 p.m. when I leave Le Chateau with a whole new crop of SNGers. In the meantime, I've somehow become "old man environment" at Middlebury. I have stood on top of a minivan during a Fourth of July parade screaming through a bullhorn telling people to vote for an 11 year-old clean energy candidate for governor. I have helped change the words to "The Circle of Life" to make it about coal-fired power plants and sung it during a flashmob in Atwater Dining Hall. I have even starred in a propaganda video for the college filmed at sunrise atop Snake Mountain, talking about the value of the liberal arts to the environmental movement. Through it all, I have learned one key thing at Middlebury (yes, I am finally getting to my point): Get involved. It's worth it.

Maybe being a super senior is finally getting to me and I'm just in a sappy mood, but for real, take my advice on this one. Last week, Rhiya Trivedi wrote in this paper, "There is so much work to be done, and none of it is our homework." Well, in my opinion, some of it is our homework, but more of it is the other things that this place uniquely offers us. I have to find a real person job in the next couple months — most likely doing something from nine to five and who knows if I'll like it or not. But while you're here, there's an opportunity to delve into some sort of social issue that grinds your gears. For me, it was the environment, but don't let Midd's emphasis on green stuff limit you. Ask the tough questions: Why aren't there more black professors on campus? Do we give the employees of the college a living wage? Why isn't Frisbee a D1 sport? Why does Nick Jansen not have an endowed chair?

Maybe you already know this, but if you don't — if you're a lonely freshman looking for something that makes college feel more college-y — hopefully this'll inspire you. If not, maybe it'll get you laid. You never know.

BEN WESSEL '11.5 IS FROM  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

## Diverse Perspectives: Dane Verret

## The hills have bias

We're all aware, sometimes painfully so, that Middlebury College was founded on a hillside. I'm a Southerner; where I'm from we live below sea-level, so I'm always intrigued by why people build towns and cities so high up. Middlebury has definitely been a strange change of pace for me — in ways that I'll talk about another time — but, I've learned how to make sense of the College.

I interpret Middlebury as someone might a poem. To me, Middlebury's values and culture are reflected in the local environment. In my experience, our Environments do greatly inform who we are. So, when it comes to Middlebury, finding these parallels between the school and the natural world makes certain invisible, subtle contradictions visible.

I frame the school this way to understand the Institution into which I've been initiated. With that awareness, it's easier for me to subvert and navigate the College.

Our college rests on top of beautiful, rolling hills. The hills suggest an immutable and stable quality; they cannot be swept away and change takes place slowly — often in indistinguishable ways. Middlebury College is in harmony with this setting. Reflected in "Strength of the Hills" is the school's unwavering dedication to its core values of Knowledge and Virtue. Appropriately, the Hills' elevation and isolation also affords us vision, presence, contemplation and authority.

This is clearly a school that trains leaders. There are other parallels that you can find here with little effort, but the important idea I've gotten from thinking about Middlebury's environment is this: If we are going to be effective leaders we have to think about how we use space; if we're going to be an open, accessible and diverse college we should also think of the ways all environments including Middlebury's constructs an environment of elitism, ableism and sterility of thought.

For example, the same hills the College began on disqualify participation by people with mobility impairments (along with a slew of other ways); the bias towards "able-bodied" people, in this case those capable of physically walking around campus, while not overtly discriminatory is nonetheless one of many segretory cultural "norms" on our campus. Let me be clear: my

intent is not to blame anyone, but to make people aware of this bias.

Now, in light of this bias, how can we as international citizens and the next generation of leaders make our home more accessible?

Another contradiction becomes evident to me when I look at these hills, this time the clash between Middlebury's push for Diversity and the Eurocentricity inherent to the institution. Middlebury is indeed a multi-cultural place. But the school remains largely segregated, academically and culturally. See the contradiction?

I argue that the same isolation which gives beauty to the school, has created cultures of isolation and silence and the most pressing — and wrong — question is, "Why are all (Insert Non-White Label) people sitting together in the cafeteria?" Rather than asking this question about other "non-traditional" students, if we look at Middlebury geographically as well as historically we can explain it to an extent: the school began as an institution for religious, European-American/White men. Likewise, it was constructed in part because America began as an institution of wealthy, patriarchal (and sometimes religious) White men. In the process, those who were not White men were disenfranchised financially and academically. Most of us know that story because it's our collective history.

Again, my intent is not to point blame, but to raise awareness of hierarchies and how it causes problems on an institutional level.

Remember, hills have an immutable, changeless quality but that does not mean it has to apply to all aspects of the college. I praise (critically) Middlebury College's attempts to become a place suitable to all types of bodies and minds. Nonetheless, I remain aware that the College was molded to the "able"-bodies of White Men. As the institution grows multicultural, more and more people will be forced to compromise between being forced to moving in the same way — thus respecting the status quo — or to leave the institution. Being forced to shift aspects of our personal identity in order to survive, while feasible, is very unhealthy. In my experience of it, it's comparable to being

forced through a cotton gin.

So I ask again, how can we make our home more accessible? There is a third option: we counteract within the institution.

We have the multicultural institution we do now thanks to constant subversion of the Patriarchal status quo by students, faculty, staff and town residents. But we are not a diverse institution, not yet. We have not yet asked ourselves what the goal of Diversity is. We have not yet asked ourselves if Diversity should be the goal of our actions. It surely goes beyond race and it goes beyond class. Furthermore, how does one achieve Diversity?

I think that, as with most things, it comes with self-knowledge and internal communication. On a communal level that requires much cross-identity conversation and consciousness. And that can only be obtained by subverting the way we use the space and environment around us. We have been conditioned to isolate spaces and people. We have been conditioned to keep certain conversations and acts behind closed doors.

That is not acceptable for a Diverse institution.

A Diverse community is one where its members understand and respect differences in perception. There is unity through difference and similarity. We have potential to achieve this, but only if we radically re-imagine interactions between academic disciplines, cultures, geographies and so on — and that's actually the easy part.

I was in a writing workshop this weekend. Amy Sultan, a writer and one of the facilitators, said this to us: "You guys have to gain an understanding of one another. You have to communicate with one another." Cross-cultural communication and understanding then, is an environmentally sustainable solution we can pursue because we learn how different bodies engage with the environment. Thus, Communication is one of the most revolutionary and politically subversive acts we can pursue.

Be a political dissident.

DANE VERRET '12 IS FROM NEW ORLEANS, LA.



## Apply Liberally: Zach Dallmeyer-Drennen Buy local: build the Keystone XL pipeline

Sometime before the end of the year, President Obama should approve the Keystone XL project to extend the pipeline from the Canadian oil sands to refineries along the Gulf coast of the United States. This move will draw condemnation from environmental activists, *The New York Times*, and the protesters — many of whom will come from Middlebury — who plan to encircle the White House this upcoming weekend. Such a pipeline, they say, would lead to an inevitable defeat in the battle against global warming, beckoning in an apocalypse of scorched earth and rising seas. NASA climate scientist James Hansen says that the Keystone XL pipeline will be “game over” for climate change.

That’s more than a little overblown.

Would the planet and the atmosphere be better off without the additional emissions of carbon dioxide currently locked in the sands of Northern Canada? Absolutely — but that’s just not realistic; Canada has a huge pool of black gold within their national boundaries, and like anyone holding onto a valuable resource, they’re going to sell it. For better or for worse, the world economy is interconnected, and it runs on oil. If the activists and protesters succeed, and Obama does not approve the extension of the pipeline, Canada will simply load the oil into supertankers and send it across the Pacific, where China will happily take it off their hands. If anything, this will only heighten the risk of a catastrophic accident, for a spill would now be dispersed throughout the ocean, killing marine life and giving countless photogenic baby seals a new coat of oil. Meanwhile, the United States will continue consuming oil at ever-higher levels — we’ll just have to buy it from Hugo Chavez’s government in Venezuela, or our new friends in Libya. Rejecting the Keystone XL pipeline will not lower America’s demand for oil by a single barrel. It will just restructure the world oil market to require more trips by tanker ships through fragile aquatic ecosystems. Proponents

of “buying local” should understand the appeal of getting our oil from Canada instead of the Middle East.

Many of the complaints about the crude oil that we’d be importing from Canada through the new pipeline stem from the production process, where — according to analysis by the National Energy Technology Lab — the process of extracting usable oil from the tar sands produces three times more carbon dioxide equivalents than traditional Canadian crude.

**Our global addiction to oil will not end because of a devoted group of protesters arrested behind the White House; it will end when rising prices make other options economically feasible.**

This sounds bad, but when the entire life cycle — including production, transport, refinement and use — is taken into account, the relative increased emissions decline significantly. Most of the carbon emitted by oil consumption doesn’t result from production; it comes from the vehicle. The car I currently drive gets about 24 miles per gallon, which means that the total emissions of CO<sub>2</sub> per gallon amount to about 11.2 kg. With the oil that the Keystone pipeline carries, this will rise 16 percent. But as oil becomes more costly to extract, cars will

use less of it. This year, President Obama — the same President that environmental activists seem intent on labeling a “sellout” — announced new fuel efficiency standards that will push average fleet efficiency to about 54.5 miles per gallon by 2025, leading to drops in emissions that more than cancel out the increase due to using “dirtier” oil. Under the new standards, a new car in just over a decade would produce a far lower 7.95 kg of CO<sub>2</sub> per gallon, even with the dirtiest of fuel.

The activists condemning President Obama for considering the project ignore some of the most basic realities of economics. The benefits to the climate will only accrue if nobody uses the oil; that is simply not going to happen. Our global addiction to oil will not end because of a devoted group of protesters arrested behind the White House; it will end when rising prices make other options economically feasible. Last time that gas prices jumped the \$4.25 mark, there was a sudden surge in interest in alternative fuel and hybrid cars. As oil supplies diminish, prices will eventually soar even higher, making clean alternatives commercially viable and economically necessary. We’ve built a lifestyle and an economy that requires quick transportation and access to electricity, and I have unshakeable faith that the American people will innovate and find substitutes that allow us to maintain that lifestyle.

In the meantime, instead of condemning a President who will do far more for the environmental movement than some Republican intent on shuttering the “job-killing” EPA, environmentalists should be building a case for cap-and-trade and for subsidies that lower the price of clean energy substitutes, raise the price of carbon emissions and hasten the transition away from oil.

ZACH DALLMEYER-DRENNEN '13.5 IS FROM CANANDAIGUA, N.Y.

## Op-Ed: Andy Hyatt Abortion: argument vs. rhetoric

I find few debates more enjoyable or more frustrating than the abortion debate. I know “enjoyable” seems a strange word to apply to such an acrimonious controversy, but talking about abortion provides the opportunity to intelligently discuss some of the most important issues in our lives today — whether it’s when life begins, women’s rights, religion or the role of morality in public life. Unfortunately, there is still no guarantee that we will take the chance to engage in meaningful debate. Such tendencies were regrettably on full display in last week’s two op-eds about abortion (“The deadly euphemisms of Pro-Choice” and “Thoughts concerning H.R. 358”). I was saddened by the tenor and content of the two essays.

In my ethics classes, my professors pound home the difference between arguments and rhetoric. Arguments are positions fleshed out by logical and well-thought-out justifications. Rhetoric can be used in the service of arguments, but on its own is simply a lot of shouting and name-calling.

Both Kenneth and Joanna take issue with the labels that people who support and oppose legalized abortion employ in their arguments. Kenneth is right that calling oneself “pro-choice” makes no sense if one accepts that the fetus is a human person. If the fetus is more than a potential person or a collection of cells, then one can no more choose to terminate the pregnancy than one could choose to kill a newborn. On the other hand, Joanna is correct that the label “pro-life” often makes little sense in the context of both the abortion debate and America’s broader political discourse. She is right to point out that there is a glaring discrepancy between a pro-life stance on abortion and what one might call the “anti-life” positions many social conservatives have on war, capital punishment, economic justice and health care.

However, the rhetoric both students use to justify their positions does more to set back the debate than it does to advance it. While I am opposed to abortion, I find Kenneth’s comparison between abortion and going to the tanning salon to be tragically misguided and potentially extremely offensive. I have yet to meet anyone, even among the most ardent supporters of abortion rights, who feels that abortion is an easy choice. Many people (including our past two Democratic presidents) characterize abortion as a tragedy, even if they

conclude that it is better for it to be legally available. Implying that supporters of abortion regard it as of no consequence belittles the often-agonizing choices some women confront when they face an unwanted pregnancy.

And while Joanna’s op-ed bristled with righteous indignation, her suggestion that men are unable to offer opinions in this debate because they have “no uterine wall to speak of” does nothing to advance the debate. The implication that all people who oppose abortion do it because they lack empathy or want to oppress women is both misleading and demeaning. While I will not deny that some opponents of abortion are motivated in part by sexism, many (or most) opponents are motivated by their belief that the fetus is a full human person from an early point in development, and is thus accorded the full spectrum of rights given to any other human person, including the right not to be killed unjustly. Can we have a debate about whether the fetus should have all of these rights? Absolutely, and I’d welcome the opportunity to have such a conversation. Screaming “Stay out of my cervix,” however, fails to adequately address the question at hand.

All of this is not to say that we should not talk about issues like abortion, same-sex marriage, capital punishment and other hot-button topics. Indeed, our campus would be impoverished without these conversations. Middlebury offers students the opportunity to seriously engage with people who disagree with them. By no means should we shy away from controversy; indeed, we should embrace it. Let us also, however, embrace the concepts of humility and civility.

Always keep in mind that there are people who rationally disagree with you, and learn to treat their opinions with respect. Are we always going to agree? Certainly not, where would the fun be in that? What we must understand as a campus is that you can strongly disagree with someone’s opinion, and yet still treat them and their arguments with respect. The corollary to this, of course, is to offer arguments that are worthy of respect. The more true arguments we have, as opposed to unproductive shouting matches, the better we are as a campus.

ANDY HYATT '12 IS FROM WALPOLE, MASS.

## Letter to the Editor: Amy Prescott Seeking clarification of rights

To the editor:

While I am compelled to commend Kenneth Burchfiel '13 for the audacity to express a controversial view in his op-ed titled “The deadly euphemisms of Pro-Choice” that appeared in the Oct. 20 edition of the *Campus*, I require clarification on one of the “absurd” references that abortion advocates make in regard to a woman’s body, namely that “women have the right to do what they want with their bodies.”

Mr. Burchfiel correctly stated that women have the right to do what they want with their bodies “in a tanning booth or hair salon,” but I remain confused about how far this right extends. Am I, as a woman, allowed to visit the spa for a mani-pedi fol-

lowing some UV exposure and highlights?

And if I were to extend beyond my natural rights in some way, could I expect instant divine retribution? I would be devastated to ruin my weekend plans by having been sinote straight to hell after some misguided personal pampering.

I think I speak for every woman on this campus, and likely in the broader world, in saying that we’d really appreciate a set of specific guidelines for what we can and can’t do with ourselves.

Thanks very much for any additional advice.

AMY PRESCOTT '12 IS FROM ARLINGTON, VA.

## Op-Ed: Maggie Moslander “Just” do your homework

In “To Hell With Excuses,” Rhiya makes the following statement: “For four years, we are immersed in the ideology of able-bodied, heterosexual, cisgender, English-speaking, white people with U.S. citizenship and no criminal background.” This assertion, more than any other in a piece filled with them, jumped out at me, because it so profoundly does not describe my experience at Middlebury College. For four years, I was immersed in the ideologies (plural) of Hobbes, Locke, Plato, Aristotle, Nietzsche, Kant, Hannah Arendt, Machiavelli, Hegel, Audre Lorde, Carl Schmidt, Cornel West and many others. I sought to understand these writers as they understood themselves, and my pursuit of knowledge was in no way passive. The beauty of a liberal arts education is that we are given one brief, shining opportunity to think profoundly and actively about important ideas. We are given the freedom to pursue knowledge for its own sake, to form our own ideas about human nature through the study of the great ideas of others. We’re also given the chance to be humble, to recognize that there are things we don’t know or can’t understand except through reading and studying the experiences of others.

Rhiya’s drive and motivation are admirable, but it would be a mistake to embrace her call for immediate action as the only good or true path. The contemplative life (particularly one that, for many, exists in its purest form for only four years) is not inherently inactive or worthless; in fact, some of my most electrifying and rewarding moments as a student occurred when I reread a certain passage for the third time and finally got it, or figured out the perfect way to phrase an idea in a paper I was writing. And I’m not convinced that there’s anything wrong with that. Progress and change are often laudable, but it is unfair and, I think, unwise, to rob students of the opportunity to learn for the sake of learning, to appreciate that understanding how things are or how the world works may have a value that goes beyond practical application. So, to those of you who may not feel ready to take on the Board of Trustees, the Vermont House of Representatives or the United States Congress: it’s okay. Take some time to “just” do your homework — it won’t be time wasted.

MAGGIE MOSLANDER '11 IS FROM NEW YORK, N.Y.



## Op-Ed: Joey Radu

## An open letter to the organizers of TEDxMiddlebury

Dear organizers of TEDxMiddlebury,

We noticed that you've invited Lt. Dan Choi — a West Point graduate discharged from the U.S. military for violation of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell," and who was repeatedly arrested in front of the White House protesting the policy — to your conference this Saturday around the theme "Embracing Risk." We must confess that we find your invitation of Choi disappointing.

You mention on your website that after he was discharged, Choi "wrote a letter to the Senate Majority Leader [Harry Reid], relinquishing his West Point class ring." But did you know that just a few months later, in an interview with the *Village Voice*, he had a bit more to say about Reid? Angry that Reid had failed in shepherding DADT repeal through the Senate, Choi said, "Harry Reid is a p\*ssy, and he'll be bleeding once a month."

Simply put, we find this statement to be disturbingly misogynistic. Furthermore, we do not think it is an isolated remark from an otherwise unproblematic individual, but rather emblematic of the violent, hegemonic masculinity upon which the U.S. military is founded — the same masculinity at the heart of the military's pervasive homophobia, tolerance of sexual assault and transmisogynistic practice of court-martialing transfeminine soldiers for "cross-dressing."

After defensively arguing that he was a "pro-choice, pro-ERA" feminist and thus couldn't possibly have been misogynistic, Choi eventually stated, "I apologize for using the slur and resolve to educate others in any capacity I'm afforded in the future." Now that you've provided him a venue in which to speak, will he use it this weekend to educate those in attendance on the harm caused by the military's unrelenting hatred of femininity? Or the ways in which the military benefits from institutionalized racism? Or how the war in Iraq has been part of an ongoing imperialist conquest for

resources like, say, oil? No — we rather fear and expect Choi will instead talk about how he "embrac[ed] risk" by coming out while still a soldier or by engaging in civil disobedience.

After all, why would Choi critique war or the military? He's in the business, and loves it: in a debate with queer anti-war activist Mattilda Bernstein Sycamore on Democracy Now, Choi said, "... war is a force that gives us meaning. War is a force that teaches us lessons of humanity and allows us to realize something about our society and teaches us the lessons that we probably should have learned before we went to war." And it was at the National Equality March that he proclaimed, "We love our country, even when our country refuses to acknowledge our love. But we continue to defend it ... because love is worth it." In fact, war has helped Choi personally, in terms of coming out: "many times I would spend alone in Iraq ... I would be very contemplative ... I could have died at any moment in the area that I was, in the Triangle of Death. Why should I be afraid of the truth of who I am?" His main concern seems to have been, "If I die in Afghanistan or Iraq, then would my boyfriend be notified?"

To quote Bernstein Sycamore's succinct response: Choi's "rhetoric...asks us to believe that the vicious wars of U.S. imperialism are for 'love' ... How many Iraqis died in order for him to express the 'truth of who I am?' What about the truth of the war? ... He's not worried about dying in an atrocious war, or killing innocent civilians, but about whether his boyfriend will be notified."

On your website, you describe DADT as an "immoral policy." Is there anything else associated with Choi and the military you might describe with that adjective? Or is it that because he is associated with the fight for "equality," everything else he gladly represents can go unquestioned? It would seem that the words of journalist Yasmin Nair hold true at Middlebury: "Identity — and its efflorescence under a neoliberal war — becomes the excuse for war and it erases the possibility of a critique of Choi's ideology."

With all this in mind, what was your reasoning behind paying Choi to speak here? What are his "ideas worth spreading?" Or perhaps we should ask both of you and our larger community this broader question from Tamara Nopper's essay in the new anthology "Against Equality: Don't Ask to Fight Their Wars": "Why is it that the straight progressives are more willing to have gays and lesbians serve in the U.S. military (or get married) than ... seriously considering the political views of LGBT folks who take radical political stances against the military state?"

Unfortunately, we'd argue Bernstein Sycamore has already articulated the answer to that: this is "the nightmare of assimilation we're living in — add 'gay' to any reactionary goal, and the liberals will jump on the bandwagon, but the founding values of gay liberation — fighting police brutality, challenging U.S. imperialism, ending oppressive institutions like marriage and the military and organized religion and creating personal autonomy for sexual merrymaking outside of conventional norms — nope, we rarely hear anything about those queer values."

Perhaps at next year's TEDxMiddlebury, we could?

With appreciation for all your hard work,

Members of the People's Gender Council of Middlebury

SUBMITTED IN SOLIDARITY WITH MEMBERS OF AFRICAN AMERICAN ALLIANCE, FEMINIST ACTION AT MIDDLEBURY, MIDDLEBURY OPEN QUEER ALLIANCE, QUEER STUDIES HOUSE, SOCIAL JUSTICE COALITION, WOMEN OF COLOR AND FACULTY MEMBERS: TARA AFFOLTER, MAGGIE CLINTON, LAURIE ESSIG, ROMAN GRAE, SUJATA MOORTI, MIKE OLINICK, WILLIAM POULIN-DELTOUR, YUMNA SIDDIQI AND CATHERINE WRIGHT.

## Op-Ed: Daniel J. F. Powers

## The dilemma of episodic binge drinking

Last weekend I overdrank and shamefully hurt a close friend. Does this behavior sound familiar to anyone? At age 23 one would think I would have learned some drinking etiquette. Obviously I'm still learning. The difficulty with over-consumption of alcohol is that it undermines decision-making control. This creates a slippery slope in which party momentum can quickly intensify and accelerate further binge-drinking, leaving rationality in its distant wake. Letting go of this control can be both thrilling and incredibly dangerous.

College campuses across the U.S. have identified this type of behavior as a primary health concern. The recent formation of the alcohol abuse task force at Middlebury fits the national trend to address why episodic binge drinking occurs in order to tackle its problematic consequences. I interviewed Psychology Professor Carlos Velez-Blasini about some of the negative consequences of binge drinking to get a feel for what the types of issues the newly formed task force will likely deal with.

I first asked Professor Velez-Blasini about how the term "binge drinking" would likely be defined, he remarked, "binge drinking measures are not subjective things, people are not just coming up with arbitrary values to delineate where the problem is." Binge drinking is defined by the federal center for disease control (CDC) — five for men and four for women in two hours. Professor Velez-Blasini clarified how episodic binge-drinking definitions have been established; "They are based on previous evidence and aim to determine when students start drinking, at what point do negative consequences arise. These definitions are crude, but fairly good measures of where, along the spectrum of intoxication, serious problems initiate. They have been used very widely for a long time in many different places."

Professor Velez-Blasini pointed out that several Middlebury students have conducted independent research on the relationship between alcohol use and decision-making in sexual behavior. "We have tried to understand how alcohol explains the decisions students make in the context of risky sex. What we have found, as is usually the case, your behavior is complex and demands a multifaceted explanation involving many different

personality factors, many of which are social, genetic and cultural. Alcohol is just one factor that is important to understand. Whether the relationship between sexual behavior and alcohol is direct or mediated by expectations and norms remains unclear." To me, the formation of the task force does not intend to imply alcohol is the only factor that explains problematic behavior, but just that it is undoubtedly involved.

Despite many efforts to curb episodic binge-drinking cul-

**The real dilemma surrounding this debate is whether the benefits of alcohol use on campus are worth the consequences.**

ture to a healthier social environment, behavior will likely continue to be problematic. Honestly, some of the most fun I have had at Middlebury has involved binge drinking in some fashion. Also, I have made enormous mistakes, some irreparable, as a result of this same behavior. Learning how to drink responsibly takes time, and as the drinking law stands now, few students coming from high school to Middlebury enter with adequate experience with the issues of alcohol. Professor Velez-Blasini reminded me that roughly two-thirds of Middlebury students are not allowed to drink in the first place.

One may wonder how colleges truly expect 18-year old students to make responsible decisions about a substance that, by law, they should have never encountered before. The college has tried to address this problem by requiring an online alcohol awareness class as a prerequisite to live in residence halls. The problem with this is that many people cannot learn lessons

about alcohol online or by lecture — it takes time and experience. For some of us, myself included, it can be a tough learning curve, while others either abstain or can easily enjoy healthily.

I have repeatedly heard general observations describing a pervasive attitude among students that "if I work hard I deserve to relax and enjoy a drink." If you agree with this logic, does it also make sense that if I work excessively hard I should deserve more relaxation and thus students can rationalize excessive drinking? Perhaps this assumption should be questioned. Some students have argued that stress has been associated with binge drinking, and as long as Middlebury continues to be an academically or socially stressful environment, binge drinking will continue and so will its destructive consequences. This opinion is contentious. One could counter that there is in fact less stress now among college students than in the past, despite an increasing trend of episodic alcohol abuse. Others students have suggested that admissions selects for "type A," students who are naturally susceptible to binge-drinking at Middlebury in what has been termed a "work hard, play hard" environment. This too is debatable. Opponents to this belief point out that binge-drinking behavior is not exclusive to elite colleges, but that it is ubiquitous throughout nearly all undergraduate college cultures in the U.S.

The real dilemma surrounding this debate is whether the benefits of alcohol use on campus are worth the consequences. Students, faculty and the administration will naturally have different answers to this question. I'll be the first to say that drinking can be highly enjoyable; however, the destructive consequences of its abuse are overwhelming.

In the past few years at Middlebury, binge drinking has resulted in extreme dorm damage, torn friendships, harassment, fighting, suspension, sexual assault, hospitalization and even death. Clearly the issue demands attention, and forming a task force to facilitate discussion is a welcome step in the right direction.

DANIEL J. F. POWERS '11.5 IS FROM FAIRBANKS, ALASKA.

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The College's green mentality extends beyond the environmental studies classrooms, beyond the energetic meetings, protests, lectures and conversations that take place on campus every day surrounding environmental issues. Environmentalism is rooted in the very physical structures of this institution: our buildings are just about as green as it gets on college campuses.

Facilities Services is the department responsible for the planning, construction and maintenance of all campus buildings, from the biomass plant to the McCullough Student Center to each and every student dorm. Director of Facilities Services Norm Cushman stressed the importance of environmental issues to his department.

"The green mentality is present in everything we do," he said. "There are just so many opportunities to save a little here and there and do the right thing for the environment, whether it's stormwater runoff or green cleaning or the no-mow zones."

When constructing a building, the College looks to the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) as an international leader in green building certification, which awards LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certifications based on a wide range of criteria. The USGBC certifies buildings as LEED Bronze, LEED Silver, LEED Gold, or LEED Platinum, depending on the sustainability of the building. Currently, the College

has one certified LEED Platinum building on campus, the Franklin Environmental Center at Hillcrest. But Hillcrest is not the only green building on campus. According to Director of Sustainability Integration Jack Byrne, Middlebury adopted its own set of sustainable design guidelines in 1999 similar to those of LEED. This was before LEED had become the monopoly it is today. The guidelines Middlebury developed were applied to the construction of new buildings such as McCardell Bicentennial Hall, Davis Family Library, Atwater Dining and Residence Halls and Ross, which combined came close to half a million square feet of new construction.

"I think it's fair to say that all of those buildings would probably qualify for LEED Silver back then," said Byrne.

More recently, in 2008, Middlebury enacted a new set of similar guidelines that are equivalent to a LEED Silver certification. Byrne explained that these guidelines comprise a core set of requirements that all new constructions must abide by, as well as additional options that are not necessarily required, allowing flexibility to builders. McCullough Student Center was renovated in 2009 under these newest internal guidelines. It received additional insulation to make it more energy efficient. This past summer Forest Hall received additional insulation and

## MASTERING THE

double-paned windows.

With so many green buildings, why aren't all of them LEED certified? The simple answer is that it costs a lot of money. Hiring a third party to fill out the application, which is about the size of a Webster dictionary, is expensive.

Next on Middlebury's master plan for green design is the construction of a new field house to replace the current "Bubble," which Byrne says will ideally be the most energy-efficient building of its kind in this climate. The time to develop ideas and acquire permits will take anywhere from nine months to a year; the funding was only recently approved by the board of trustees on Oct. 22.

"The field house is a great opportunity to think about how we can do the latest and greatest in terms of sustainability," said Vice President for Administration Tim Spears, who oversees Facilities Services. "Whether we can actually do the latest and greatest remains to be seen, since the most progressive approach may not be the most efficient or cost-effective. Still it's a good opportunity to take a look."

Cushman pointed out how the College's use of



DAYLIGHTING (PLACING WINDOWS WHERE THEY WILL CAPTURE NATURAL SUNLIGHT)

SOLAR PANELS

85% OF OLD STRUCTURE WAS REUSED

GRASS PATCH THAT ABSORBS RAINWATER TO PREVENT RUN-OFF

TREES PLANTED

LOW FLOW FIXTURES AND RECYCLED SUNFLOWER SEEDS USED IN DESKS

## GREENEST OF THE

BY JACKIE PARK, STAFF WRITER

As you walk to Proctor, you might have noticed the building to your right with the melted rainbow tires on your way to Proctor. That building is the LEED Platinum certified Franklin Environmental Center at Hillcrest. LEED, or Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, is an internationally recognized green building certification system. Though it is not easy being green, in 2008, Hillcrest received LEED Platinum certification, the highest designation awarded for LEED. Hillcrest was the first building in Vermont to receive an LEED certification and also the seventh Platinum-rated building in the United States at the time.

Originally, it was only an historic 1875 Vermont farmhouse. The College renovated and used it as female dorms, faculty offices and classrooms. Then it was remodeled in 2007 as the Franklin Environmental Center at Hillcrest. The building is now home to Environmental Programs, the Campus Sustainability Program, the Fellowships in Environmental Journalism Program, Office of

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# THE GUIDELINES

BY ALEX STROTT, STAFF WRITER

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cutting-edge green technologies such as the biomass plant attracts innovators with ideas for ways in which the College could use green technology. "The more of this experimental technology we try — such as biomass, the green roof at Atwater, alternative ways to cool at Atwater Hall A and B — the more of that you do, the more you become a sort of magnet for people who have a better mousetrap," he said. "We have folks who are continually contacting us with ideas — people come to us with ideas about generating liquid energy from biomass, converting residue from meat processors into diesel fuel. We're constantly at the forefront of people trying to sell those mousetraps to us."

Beside the field house, other long-term plans for Middlebury include constructing wider, more attractive pathways to encourage the pedestrian presence on campus and blocking some roads at certain times for the same purpose.

It's not easy being green, but the College been building with an environmental conscience for decades. Commitments in the Master Plan indicate it won't stop any time soon.

## WHAT LEED LOOKS FOR

**SUSTAINABLE SITES:** Minimal impacts on surrounding ecosystems

**WATER EFFICIENCY**

**ENERGY & ATMOSPHERE**

**MATERIALS & RESOURCES:** Waste reduction, recycling, sustainable products

**INDOOR ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY:** Improved air quality

**LOCATIONS & LINKAGES:** Access to open, functional outdoor space and building on previously developed land

**AWARENESS & EDUCATION**

**INNOVATION IN DESIGN**

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THE COLLEGE HAS MADE SUSTAINABLE—NOT JUST PERMANENT—BUILDING A PRIORITY

## OF THE GREEN

the Dean of Environmental Affairs and many other environmental groups.

Hillcrest looks like any other building on campus; there are doors, floors, stairs and windows. However, as I toured around the entire building and learned more about it, I was astonished by the work that was put into the remodeling.

Hillcrest has a "Building Dashboard," a touchscreen, interactive real-time database for energy use and solar production in the Franklin Environmental Center. The program allows people to slide through the screen and to find out about the building's total water consumption, steam consumption, electricity consumption and even the weekend weather forecast. You can go online and see it, but I suggest actually going into the building and spending some time sliding your fingers on the screen.

Jeannie Bartlett '15, a prospective environment studies major says, "I feel better about spending time here than any other building because everything about the building is very eco-friendly.

The refrigerator is filled with jugs of water because it is more efficient to run a refrigerator full than empty."

If you need to use the refrigerator, all you have to do is take out the jug(s) of water and put whatever you want in it.

"The ceiling is low so it feels more like a house than a lecture building when I spend time in it so I like it," said Bartlett. "Lower ceilings also mean less energy needed to heat the building. I would love for more buildings to share some of the 'green' characteristics of Hillcrest."

Almost everything about Hillcrest is eco-friendly. Some features of the building include ground-water exchange air-conditioning, energy efficient windows and lights, low-flow faucets, solar panels on the roof, wood from sustainably managed forests certified by Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) and waterless urinals. The building was made with recycled products, and specifically the countertops were made with 100 percent recycled paper and cashew resin. As a result of all the sustainability features, Hillcrest uses 47 percent less energy and saves over 30 percent in water use than a standard building of the same size.

Not only is Hillcrest an LEED Platinum certified



building but it is also a concrete example of our school's commitment and dedication to the environment. But what are those "melted rainbow tires"? They are actually art: a piece called Solid State Change by Deborah Fisher.

Though these rainbows are only made out of tires, someday we'll find it, that rainbow connection ... That connection to the building might be that you are strongly interested in environmental issues, or you just really want to use the waterless urinal. Whatever it may be, make sure to step inside Midd's very own LEED Platinum-certified building and appreciate its green beauty.



## The L-Word

I just spent an extended Fall Break in the lovely San Francisco, Calif., the first time I'd ever been to the Bay Area, and I have returned with several observations.

One, everyone has an iPhone. Literally. Even some of the Google employees.

Two, wherever you are in the city, you are probably only a few blocks from an organic grocer. If you are not, you can surely hail a hybrid taxi to get you to one.

Three, no one bats an eye when you make out in public, no matter your assumed gender or your make-out partner's, no matter what you're wearing, no matter if it's daytime and there are kids around.

The first observation struck me as funny, and made me stick out like the tourist I was with my not-even-smart-phone. The other two contributed to my long held theory: a population concerned with environmental responsibility will also be sexually permissive.

It's not an original, or even nuanced, theory, as environmentalism and sexual freedom are both usually part of the liberal political agenda, but I think they are connected beyond their capacity to ruffle more conservative feathers.

It's hard for me to imagine a compassionate person infringing on either their neighbors' or future generations' right to live fulfilling lives. Preserving the planet for future generations is certainly an anthropocentric take on environmentalism, and it is only one of many reasons to care about the environment, but it's a reason that clearly connects to sexual liberty, freedom to love (and make love, consensually) whomever and however we please. If two (or more!) people with the capacity to consent want to do fun things with each other in the privacy of their own homes or local BDSM club, who's to say no?

The environment and sex connect all of us — we are all part of and dependent on the environment, and sex is a literal connection. More than that, it's a nearly universal preoccupation: we're either physically connecting with other people, we're thinking about it when we aren't, or we've had to consciously decide not to. Sexual relations and the state of our planet are unavoidable aspects of our existence. It's a grand statement, but I don't think it's untrue.

So back in San Francisco, when I found myself listening to two men openly discussing their polyamorous relationship on an electric bus, I shouldn't have been as surprised coming from such an environmentally conscious atmosphere as the one here at Middlebury College. But I was.

I realize that sex isn't usually related to environmentalism as plainly as I have put it here. Being an environmentalist is less personally revealing than declaring yourself sex-positive, even if you only mean that you support others' right to do whatever 'do' they do. (Not necessarily that you frequent swingers' parties or anything.) But I am also committed to fighting this shyness we have around sex. At one point I'm sure it was uncouth to discuss what you did with your trash, but in the name of saving our shared home planet, we now have community workshops on how to compost and municipal services devoted to helping us recycle and reuse. Why haven't we gotten around to openly advertised clinics on masturbation? If we're really thinking liberally, and we're all committed to happy, healthy people on a happy, healthy planet, a masturbation clinic does as much good as a guided nature walk.

Middlebury is not shy about promoting sustainability, and I don't think it should be shy about promoting dialogue around sex. I'm not saying the College should hand out vibrators — along with the fluorescent light bulbs during orientation — it is one thing to ask students to consider changing their lives for the common good and quite another for personal benefit. However, we should have more opportunities to critically consider ourselves as sexual beings than the occasional visiting sex toy salesperson or barely publicized film screening.



Lea Calderon-Guthe, Senior Staff Writer

## Tracing trails of trash on campus

By Ali Andrews  
STAFF WRITER

Early last Sunday, when the grass was still glossy with dew, like something brand new wrapped in plastic, I came across an empty bag of chips at the base of a tree. I didn't like to see it there, reflecting the slanted morning light. The metallic sheen upset the grace of falling yellow and red leaves onto the evenly mowed lawns. I walked to the nearest trashcan, and threw the empty bag away. After breakfast later that morning, I put a banana peel on the rotating dish trays in the dining hall and a napkin the garbage as I left.

These simple acts of throwing things away made me wonder, what happens to garbage beyond the trashcan? The trashcan, like a gateway, shields me from the fate of chip bags and banana peels in ways that I have yet to understand. Following that curiosity, I have endeavored to find out where my trash goes.

Every Monday morning, a crew of Recycling Center employees makes rounds of campus. They pick up bags of trash from dorms, empty the sidewalk trashcans and swing by the dining halls. The crew brings the bags back to the Recycling Center, a tall building west of campus, where each bag of trash from campus is sorted.

"We rip open the bag ... and take out the compost and recycling," said Judd Laroque, a Recycling Center employee and Middlebury town local. Each recyclable material goes into a specific bin: "Here we put the paper, here the number ones, twos and three through sixes, here the redeemable cans, here the tin cans [and] here the glass bottles," said Laroque, as he pointed to receptacles placed around the sorting table.

"We pick out the reusable objects too. People throw out the oddest things," Laroque said. The student sorter had set aside a lamp, a plastic pumpkin for trick-or-treating, a binder and a stack of bowls with that familiar blue floral dining hall pattern. There were two more crates with crusted glasses and pastel plates on the floor at her feet. "We take about 500 pounds of dishware back to the dining hall over the course of the year," Laroque said.

"The students who come down and work for us say that they are much more aware of what gets tossed into the trash [...] after working here, even I pay attention to what I throw out. I look at it and ask 'Does this really need to be trash?'" About 20 students work at the recycling center part-time.

After being sorted, materials go through further processing. Balers, large mechanical fists, compress the recyclable materials. "The bottles all want to expand back to their shape so we have to keep the weight on them," Judd explained as he opened the baler and let the bottles expand. Ragged cardboard and shredded paper is stored in a large semi-truck trailer until the trailer is full and ready for transport. Casella, one of two hauling companies in the county, then drives the trailer to a recycling center in Rutland, also owned by Casella.

Composting is also an important part of the recycling center's job. Judd opened the compost bin to reveal a sour smell and busy flies above banana peels, uneaten vegetable sauté and paper to-go containers. As he was showing the compost bin, he picked out a plastic fork, saying, "That's actually not compostable." This organic material will

decompose in heaps of dark dirt at the College's composting facility beyond the golf course. "It's mixed with horse manure from Morgan Horse Farm by a front loader. It can get up to 170 degrees in the middle of the pile," he said. The compost produced over 400 cubic yards last year, which is used to fertilize sports fields on campus.

This laborious process of sorting by hand enables the College to divert over 60 percent of its waste away from the landfill. Casella hauls the landfill-bound waste to the Addison County Solid Waste Transfer Station once the 12-ton trailer is full, which occurs about every two weeks. The Transfer Station, located off Route-7 just south of Middlebury, processes the waste from all 19 towns of Addison County.

I drove to the Transfer Station, where Don Maglienti, the program coordinator for Addison County Solid Waste Management District, gave me a tour. He came out of his office in a neon vest and clean Carharts, where he handed me a vest of my own.

When Maglienti, who grew up in Plattsburgh, N.Y. and worked for the Environmental Protection Agency previously, first began working here 10 years ago, the station only had one building for processing trash. Now, there are several collection areas where trash is subdivided for proper disposal. The expansion of the facility, Maglienti explains, was designed to improve safety and efficiency, while enabling diversion of more waste from the landfill. The State goal was to divert 50 percent of the waste produced in our District. Last year we surpassed that goal."

"It's kind of an odd business model. Since our funding comes from the waste that's generated, and our mission is to reduce waste, we're on track to put ourselves out of business," he said.

Ripping open each bag of trash would be impossible to do at the scale of waste the Transfer Station sees daily — between 60 and 90 tons of trash, not including diverted materials. Instead, the facility depends on the consumer to sort their own waste. The state gives incentives for proper sorting by offering five dollars for each mercury-containing thermostat and providing free disposal of all electronic waste.

Hazardous waste consumes much of the efforts of the Transfer Station, as to keep unwanted materials out of the landfill. Jars the size of saltshakers lined the shelves of the trailer like a chemist's potluck. Maglienti picked up a small glass jar half full of clumpy yellow powder. "People bring this kind of stuff in and we have to figure out what it is," he puts it back down on the shelf, "and how to dispose of it safely."

"If someone were to call with a question about how to dispose of dynamite, I wouldn't have an easy answer. There are so few alternatives for some high-hazard materials, especially explosives," he continued.

Though the Transfer Station diverts over half of its incoming waste to recycling, the largest category of waste exported cannot be recycled. The process of removing trash from the Transfer Station includes multiple steps. A hauling truck carrying trash dumps its contents into a giant bin. Next, a front loader scoops the trash into an open top semi-truck parked below. Once the front loader has compacted 30 tons of trash into the semi-truck, a hauler transports it to a landfill three hours away. Two

or three trailers leave Addison County for the landfill each day, carrying between 60 and 90 tons of waste in total.

"The same company that hauls most of the trash in Addison County, Casella, owns the landfill. We are just a middle man."

The trash used to be hauled to a landfill in Clinton County, New York, where Don grew up. "My parents still live there and from their kitchen window you can see the landfill," Don said. "You couldn't see it before, but now it's grown so much that it now reaches above the tree line. I think they look at their garbage differently now."

In Addison County, most towns use Casella's landfill. However, there are two exceptions to the countywide waste disposal system — the towns of Salisbury and Bristol. Both of these towns have their own small landfills. These town landfills probably see less than ten tons of trash a week whereas Casella's landfill, where campus trash ends up, sees hundreds of tons of trash daily. As it is only 30 minutes away and happened to be the destination of an afternoon geology class willing to adopt me, I visited the Bristol Town Landfill to get the complete trash experience.

Since the mid-twentieth century, the town of Bristol has stored all of its trash at this site. Twice a week the landfill is open to town residents to bring their trash to add to the pile. It costs about three dollars per bag.

The Bristol Town Landfill is not lined with plastic, as most are, and the ground in Bristol is particularly permeable due to its geologic formation. Water table contamination is a serious risk due to accumulating trash there.

One of trash mounds has already been capped, having reached its capacity. It was a smoothly spherical form, colonized by grass and milkweed. The landfill has a vent at the top, "from which methane and other gases are released," explained Assistant Professor of Geology Will Amidon. As a greenhouse gas, this is dangerous for the environment.

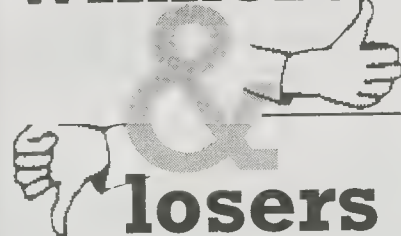
"From the landfill also come chemicals in liquid form," said Amidon. "There is a kind of sludge oozing from the downhill slope. It is most likely not toxic. Let's go take a look." We walked around the grassy knoll to a marsh area with rainbow mud. The ground was green and orange — like rusted scrap metal. Water drooled over the dyed earth in reflective sheets.

Because of the high porosity of the land surrounding the landfill, if the water becomes contaminated, it will wreak havoc on Bristol. Amidon discussed this possibility with his class. "The town has set up a fund in the event that there is a contamination problem," he said.

The landfill is expected to reach capacity in 30 years. Presumably then they will cease to be one of the exceptions in Addison County and send their trash to the Transfer Station. But that still leaves half a century's worth of trash in the ground to morph and decompose, resulting in risk of water contamination. "The trouble with trash is that you don't really know what you're going to get," said Amidon.

With a better understanding of how trash is processed here at the College and in Addison County, I now am more aware of what happens beyond the trashcan. Now, when I throw away that array chip bag, or the remnants of my breakfast, I know who to thank.

## winners



## Tailgates

Homecoming! Old friends!

## Green

"I'm green, [...] I think it's what I want to be." -Kermit the Frog

## Atwater's pulled pork

Salty and delectable.

## Tailgate area

Beer cans everywhere.

## Blue

"And I don't want to be blue." -Dana Valery

## My shirt

It's just a little messy.



# Wild green grass saves College time, money, carbon

By Luke Whelan  
STAFF WRITER

The grass is always green at Middlebury. But it doesn't stay that way on its own: a lot of time, resources and energy go into maintaining the campus's lawns and fields, and it's not always environmentally friendly. Although the College has taken steps to minimize the environmental impact of caring for its lawns and fields, often other factors have had to be prioritized over the environment.

## Maintaining the campus lawns

The 76.5 acres of mowed lawn on Middlebury's 161-acre main campus are fairly low maintenance for the 12-person campus landscape crew that takes care of it, led by Landscape Horticulturalist Tim Parsons. Because of the Champlain Valley's heavy rainfall and clayey, water-absorbing ground, and the drought-resistant blend of grass seed that has been especially tailored to Middlebury's soil, other than mowing the lawns every week, not much has to be done to keep the grass green and healthy.

But continuously mowing the lawn from spring through fall in itself has an impact on the environment. "If you are a campus that prides itself on its sustainability, spewing carbon into the atmosphere just to keep the grass really short is insane," said Professor of Biology Helen Young.

In 2008, this problem was considered by the Master Plan Implementation Committee (MPIC), a group of faculty, staff and administrators headed by Jennifer Bleich, currently Associate Director of the Office of Corporate and Foundation Relations, but formerly Facilities Services Project Manager, that came together to create guidelines for the sustainable and economically efficient growth of Middlebury's campus in the next fifty years in the form of a Master Plan. "Excessive expense and effort are dedicated to maintaining the campus's extensive grass lawns, contributing to the campus's carbon footprint," says the Master Plan in the sustainability section.

## "No-Mow Zones"

One step the MPIC took to reduce lawn maintenance was the institution of "no-mow" zones. "Our landscape department has chosen about 20 acres we are actively ignoring," said Parsons on his blog in 2009.

The twenty acres Parsons referred to, which remain "ignored," include large swathes of land in between of Ross and Battell Beach and in front of Coffrin. Parsons has also delineated many smaller no-mow areas around campus, for example between the Mahaney Center for the Arts and Munford House. The landscape team strategically chose areas that had little or no student use. They also considered aesthetics, and avoided areas where high grass could have a physically negative effect, such as near student dorms, where tall grass can house mice populations.

The "no-mow" plan has many advantages.

"The reduction in fuel use and labor



Milkweed



Daisy fleabane

costs ... was the driving force behind introducing the no-mow areas, but we also have the benefit of the visual interest they bring to a formerly highly manicured campus," said Bleich.

Parsons estimates not mowing those roughly 20 acres of lawn saves 1,000 hours of labor and about 670 gallons of fuel annually.

"The no-mow zones have generally decreased our mowing on campus by one day a week ... If you consider that we mow weekly from April through October, that roughly calculates to a savings of \$45,000 annually," said Assistant Director of Facilities Services Luther Tenny in an email.

The Master Plan also states that decreasing the amount of mowed lawn "will reduce its contribution to global warming by reducing the greenhouse gas emissions associated with maintenance."

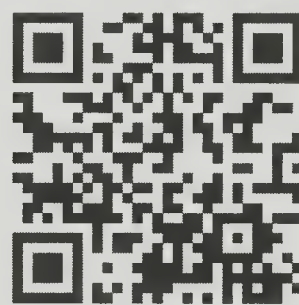
In addition to saving costs and lowering the carbon footprint, not mowing the grass has ecological benefits as well. "While at Middlebury we pride ourselves in having beautiful grounds, ecologically it's a desert. Large shade trees and lawn give next to no habitat for pollinators, migrating songbirds, insects, amphibians ... worms, fungi and other organisms," said Parsons on his blog.

Since their institution three years ago, the no-mow zones seem to be an ecological success. Young, who in years past has compiled a census of plant species growing in the no-mow zones with her "Plant Biology" class, has noticed the advancement of this habitat.

"There is a tremendous diversity of plants and animals where previously there was only one species. It's replacing a monoculture with a policulture, and it requires no work. It's a no brainer." Plants found in the no-mow zones include milkweed,



Red clover



For color pictures of Middlebury's luscious grass, scan this QR code or visit [go/grass](http://go/grass).

queen lace, red clover, Kentucky blue grass, vetch, astor, sweet clover, chicory, knap weed and alfalfa, many of which produce vibrant wildflowers.

In addition to the profusion of plants, new critters have found homes in the no-mow zones as well. "The rich diversity of flowers brings a rich diversity of pollinators," Young said. She listed bees, butterflies, hummingbirds, flies and beetles as just some of the species that come to pollinate. For Young, who specializes in pollination biology, this is exciting news.

Parsons and his landscape team have taken other steps to reduce the environmental impact of maintaining the grass as well. For example, the landscape crew has stopped raking leaves in the fall, instead chopping them up where they are in order to make them into compost that can reenter the ground as nutrients. They also use recycled paper mulch in the green, goopy "hydroseeding" mixture they use to plant new grass.

"The single best thing that students can do [to maintain grass on campus] is to respect where we put in new seed down, and stay off of it as long as possible. Until [the grass] gets good and established, it's surprisingly fragile." Every time new grass is trampled or driven on, they have to replant it, which includes using more seed, fertilizer and mulch: a waste of time and resources.

## Maintaining the athletic fields

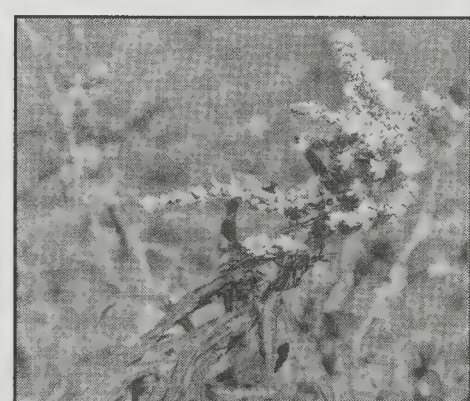
Maintaining Middlebury's 89 acres of athletic fields, however, requires much more effort and resources. The four-person athletic fields crew cannot prioritize the environment as much as the campus landscaping crew.

"Facilities make the experience. If you are playing on a beautiful field you are able to make things happen that you can't if you are playing in sub-standard conditions," said women's varsity soccer coach Peter Kim.

Kim's opinion was echoed by one of his players, Amy Pickens '15, who said, "[The maintenance of a field] makes a big difference. If it rains [poorly maintained fields] get muddy and the ball sticks and won't go as far and it's harder to plant your feet."

In fact, the National College Athletics Association (NCAA) regulates the length of the grass of athletic fields. For example, the grass blades on a soccer field have to be kept at exactly two inches. But the NCAA doesn't just institute these types of regulations for aesthetics, they also have the athletes' safety in mind. Divots or mud could mean a broken ankle or a torn ACL.

The better maintained the field, the more it will hold up through inclement weather and the tireless assault of athlete's cleats. "Sports teams tear those fields right up," said Athletic Fields Crew Chief Justin Quenneville.



Goldenrod



Smartweed

Paul Gerard, Photos Editor

The maintenance crew works nearly year-round on the fields. Even during the summer when no one uses the fields, they mow the field three times a week. If they were to let the grass grow too high at any time of year, it would smother the grass below, and the blade shape would be thrown off. Frequent mowing also trains the grass to spread laterally instead grow up, making for a thicker, lusher lawn.

"We focus on the grass like the whole time," said Quenneville about the job of his crew of three people, which also includes the maintenance of the indoor courts and hockey rink.

The bulk of the maintenance comes in June and July during the off-season. During this time, the athletic field crew tries to make the Kentucky Bluegrass blades as sturdy as possible for fall sports in September. If the grass stays healthy, it will survive the winter and pop back up in the spring just in time for the lacrosse, baseball and softball seasons to start.

But all of this maintenance includes practices that are not environmentally friendly. "To maintain the fields strictly organically, we would need more space," said Parsons. Without using inorganic fertilizers the grass won't recover quickly enough for the sports teams to play on the same fields over and over.

The athletic fields crew does use compost made with food waste from the dining halls, reducing the impact on the environment. You can see (and smell) the compost mound on the cross country trail by the golf course.

Another environmentally friendly and economically efficient option is to replace grass with turf. In the past five years, both the men's soccer field and the football field were replaced by turf, which cut the maintenance for the fields in half, according to Quenneville.

But changing the field from grass to turf profoundly affects the game. According to Kim, in soccer, the ball rolls and bounces differently, and the turf changes when it is wet and when it is hot. "The game is meant to be played on grass," he said. Another downside to installing turf is the large initial investment, even though the reduction in maintenance will make it less costly in the long run.

For now, the athletic field and campus landscape crews will continue working hard to keep our lawns verdant and our athletic fields in good condition. As for inorganic inputs, "we try to keep them to a minimum [...] we would never intentionally harm our environment — this is where we live and work, after all," said Quenneville. Continuing the no-mow zones is one way Parsons and his team plan to do that. "We don't have any immediate plans to expand more no-mow areas, but are always thinking, and looking for ways to increase efficiency," said Parsons.

## Campus No-Mow Zones

Data: Tim Parsons.  
Technical assistance: Ben Meader  
(Geography department).  
Credits: Ian Stewart (Design editor),  
Allison Forrest (Features editor).





# Green food prepared in green kitchens

By Isabella Stallworthy  
STAFF WRITER

From elegant Atwater to cozy Proctor to spacious Ross, there is quite a range of dining options to choose from here at Middlebury College. Everyone has their favorite breakfast destination and their preferred dinner spot. Students pick where they go to eat based on the content of daily online menus, proximity to dorms or where their friends happen to be going. But one thing people don't consider as much is the question of how green each of the dining halls are here on campus. It's not easy being green, but the Middlebury dining halls pull it off pretty well.

Anyone who has ever eaten a meal at the College has seen the numerous bins for compost, trash, and different types of recycling, all of which has become pretty much second nature to students.

"We recycle just about anything you could possibly recycle," notes Director of Dining Services, Matthew Biette.

Food service is given a \$2.1 million annual food budget and serves over 7,000 meals a day to students and staff. Roughly twenty percent of the total food dollars go to local sellers.

Contrary to popular belief, all three dining halls get roughly all of their food from the same vendors and operate by the same procedures. But, according to Atwater Dining Chef Ian Martin, Atwater does purchase more from the organic garden than all the other halls do combined. While there are many similarities, there are also some differences between the halls.

Atwater serves lunch and breakfast during the weekdays. Its food selection is considered the most gourmet of our three dining halls. It's a fairly new building, built with sustainably harvested wood, much of which came from the forests of Vermont. Characterized by its tall windows and light atmosphere, it is a favorite

among students. In addition to being a great source for natural light, the large double pane windows also help contain heat within the building. One unique characteristic of Atwater is the open hearth oven visible from the main serving area.

"It's efficient because the rocks heat up and have residual heat," says Biette. "If you put in a roast or something that needs a long braise, you could put it in the oven at night, turn it off, and the residual heat would keep it cooking until the morning."

One aspect of Atwater dining hall that you should be very grateful for as winter approaches is the insulation provided by the green roof.

"It's this remarkable membrane that's super thick," comments Martin. As you can see on your way into the building, the roof is covered in dirt, gravel and plants. This feature not only works to maintain temperatures inside, but also contributes to the durability and water resistance of the building and the plants help to filter the rainfall."

Ross is known for its pizza dinners, the quintessential "college cafeteria." Like Atwater, it also has very large windows but even better, they're triple pane.

"I really like Ross," says Naila Jahan '15. "I would say it is the greenest because they had that candlelit dinner the other night."

Ross is the second newest dining hall and was also constructed from locally harvested wood. One sustainable feature is that it has fans over the stoves to efficiently control the rate of the hood exhaust, thereby conserving electricity use.

Proctor, known for its extensive salad bar, panini machines and its homey atmosphere, is the oldest of dining halls but it has just received some renovations, giving it a leg up in the eco-friendliness department.

"Part of the renovations was brand new

equipment upstairs — all that stuff is high-efficiency," says Biette. "What we have is stuff that is efficient for the power that we need."

What most people don't know is that Proctor just got a new dishwasher, greatly contributing to its ability to conserve water. According to Biette, "That machine, in terms of energy conservation and chemical use, and heat load onto building, will pay itself back in less than three years."

One of Proctor's sustainability weaknesses is its older windows. "We did not replace the windows in Proctor — windows are a major expense. They're still somewhat leaky," says Biette.

For the most part, the dining halls are very similar; they all compost, recycle and get their food from the same places. However, in terms of water conservation, Proctor comes out ahead due to the brand new state-of-the-art dishwasher. Ross minimizes electricity use and Atwater is the winner of the heat and energy conservation prize given its green roof, hearth oven and large windows. Now we know that wherever we dine — whether we want a gourmet meal, a slice of pizza or an opportunity to make our own recipes — we're lucky to always have good food from green kitchens.



Paul Gerard, Photos Editor  
Atwater buys from the organic garden.

## Taste Cheese With Chopsticks

Life, Domain, Kingdom, Phylum, Class, Order, Family, Genus, Species. When I write papers for my environmental studies classes, I can't help but try to summarize the "general rules" behind my observations. And often, the feedback I get from my professors is "to be more specific." I tend to talk about "Life," the general level, when I'm looking into an environmental issue, but people here talk more about "Species," the detailed level.



Consider the difference between eastern and western Medicine. Consider the Human body as a universe. To cure one's pain, western medicine will target right on that spot, solving the problem that is there. Painkillers kill pain, antibiotic medicines massacre bacteria. If it's still not working, like cancer, then just cut it off. In Chinese, there is a saying for this kind of method, 頭痛醫頭, 腳痛醫腳 (tou tong yi tou, jiao tong yi jiao), which means you only cure the place that hurts. This is not considered smart in Chinese medicine, because we believe there must be a reason for the pain. For example, acne may be caused by the malfunction of your liver. Instead of applying acne treatment on the face, Chinese medicine will treat your liver, to avoid the problem from its origin. Chinese medicine methods are about finding the balance of the universe in the human body.

And Chinese people are also interested in finding the balance of the natural. Instead of the western style weather forecast for every single day, we have a system called 24 solar terms. A year is divided into 24 parts, and each part has its own character. It is calculated based on observations of generations and generations of farmers. Thus it is a convenient and precise system for farmers to know when is the right time to grow and harvest. It is more efficient to learn about the general pattern of a period than to keep up with detailed daily weather forecast in avoiding the risks of agricultural failure.

Regrettably, China now no longer uses traditional Chinese methods to understand and deal with the environment, because it has tasted the sweetness of the illusion of development based on sacrificing nature. Actually the people in Vermont have learned lessons about meddling with nature. Understanding the history (Vermont has been deforested twice in the last 200 years), they are more learned and admiring of nature. After I really hope we can all learn that we are part of the nature, not the creator of nature, and we are not standing to the opposite of nature before it's too late. We will never become the victims of natural disasters if we don't make the nature our victim.

Before the industrial revolution, humankind didn't have that much control over the natural world. We couldn't travel except by horse or on foot, we needed to go to bed early because there was nothing else to do in the dim candle light, and pouring rain or lightning scared us because the house you lived in was not that strong. But now, we can go around the world in a day; distance is never a problem; we can stay up late to party regardless of the time; we build up high levees to stop the flooding, only to create more serious natural disasters. When we are acquiring more modern technology, modifying the genes of the crops we eat, it's easy to trick ourselves into thinking that we have control over the nature. We cure the problems like flooding and earthquake using western medicine methods, believing that they are just exceptional phenomenon, but not the warning from the core of the system. We are lacking the respect for nature and the knowledge that we are never capable of controlling her.

Jiayi Zhu '14 is an environmental studies major.

# Students take advantage of eco-grants

By Anna Flinchbaugh  
STAFF WRITER

As our favorite froggy friend once lamented, "it's not easy being green." Fortunately for Middlebury students, however, it is easy finding green — that is, finding funding for environmental initiatives.

## Udall Scholarship in Environmental Studies

This is a rock star among environmental scholarships. Offered by the Udall Foundation, the scholarship is awarded annually, as the Environmental Studies website notes, to "approximately 80 students from across the United States." Since the scholarship's inception in 1997, nine Middlebury students have received it, most recently Ben Wessel '12.

A deeply involved member of the youth climate movement, Wessel became interested in the scholarship after hearing about what an amazing experience it was from other environmental policy activists. He was thrilled about the opportunity that it offered to meet "similarly passionate and motivated youth who were working on the same issues in their own communities, facing similar challenges and having a kick-ass time working out how to best change the world." This close-knit community emerges from the structure of the Udall; in addition to the scholarship, all Udall scholars, both past and present, are required to attend a four-day orientation in Tuscon, Ariz. each August.

The Udall scholarship is available to any student "majoring in a field related to the environment," notes the ES website. To apply, students must first receive a nomination from Middlebury; the College can nominate up to six students a year. While the steps involved may seem lengthy, the rewards are pretty sweet. In addition to the great community — which Wessel alludes to as "Udall couches all over the country waiting for me to crash on them" — Udall scholars receive \$5000.

## Sustainable Study Abroad

At the other end of the pay scale sit the Sustainable Study Abroad grants, which offer students up to \$500 to pursue projects related to sustainability while studying abroad. Duna Tatour '12 encourages students not to be turned off by the size of the grant. She puts it neatly: "It's a small grant, but it's good." The grant, she goes on to explain, can go deceptively far, noting how much more the amount can do overseas and out of major cities. With her grant, Tatour travelled from her study abroad school in England to Holland and filmed a documentary about students living as squatters in an empty apartment building.

The grant is available, as Stacy Thedobo, Assistant Director with International Programs and Off-Campus Study, explains, to "students who study abroad at Middlebury Schools Abroad (which includes Middlebury students as well as students from other colleges and universities), as well as Middlebury students who study abroad at externally-sponsored ... programs."

Although Sustainable Study Abroad grants are necessarily used for projects abroad, their impacts are still felt in Middlebury. Tatour explained that it's impossible not to "draw parallels between the community here and the one that I [saw] in Holland." These surface parallels — a small community, the liberal arts — led Tatour to question whether some of the practices she witnessed in Holland could be applied to our campus as well. One day, for example, she accompanied students to the grocery store, where they collected food at the edge of its expiration date. In an hour, they found approximately \$110 in food that would have otherwise gone to waste. This led Tatour to wonder, "If they're doing this there, why are we not thinking about it? In giving students the means to explore the many ways in which the nebulous idea of sustainability manifests itself, Sustainable Study Abroad grants give

students the ability to turn the idea of "think global, act local" into something more than a hackneyed cliché.

## Environmental Council Grants

Of course, some would argue that the global inspiration isn't always necessary. Tod Murphy, former owner of the Farmer's Diner, proffered as a replacement the slogan "think locally, act neighborly," an idea that comes to life in the grants offered by the Environmental Council. These grants must "have a demonstrated effect on people on campus," as Environmental Council Co-Chair and Professor of Biology Helen Young explains.

One of the most exciting things about the Environmental Council grants is that they are, as Young describes, "all over the map" and "all over the board" in terms of scope and the applicants they attract. They are also "out-of-the-box," as Wessel notes, lauding the college for its "commitment to funding crazy environmental initiatives."

This diversity is perhaps the most unifying characteristic of Environmental Council grants. Young explains that in selecting projects to fund, the council looks for ideas that offer "a new approach to an old problem, [or] a problem that people didn't even realize was a problem." This focus on creativity is evident in the Environmental Council's past projects; they have included sending students to Washington D.C. for PowerShift, starting an on-campus thrift store, organizing a bike rental program, bringing an NFL player to campus to discuss the role of sustainability in athletics and more.

As Wessel enthuses, "Midd does a pretty great job getting the word out about all the different ways students can get money to pay for environmental initiatives." Perhaps this is because sustainability is, "the kind of dream that gets better the more people you share it with."



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## SAYING FAREWELL TO

## SO INCLINED

BY KATE MILEY  
STAFF WRITER

This past Friday, Oct. 28, Patrick Dougherty, creator of the "So Inclined" tree sculptures outside the Mahaney Center for the Arts, gave a talk to students, faculty and townspeople that marked the beginning of the end for his one-of-a-kind installation.

The teepee-esque sculptures are scheduled to be disassembled sometime this week. Dougherty explained to the gathered crowd that due to the organic nature of his work — he uses no wires or structural supports when creating pieces such as "So Inclined" — his installations are typically dismantled after two years because the effects of bad weather on his outdoor sculptures inevitably result in distortion and deterioration of the original designs.

With the aid of a slideshow, Dougherty walked the audience through the dismantling process, which is sometimes accomplished by burning the stick sculptures or dismantling them by hand.

"So Inclined" will not be burned, contrary to rumors circulating on campus, and will be taken down by facilities staff and chipped, according to Richard Saunders, director of the Middlebury College Museum of Art.



Courtesy

Famed sculptor Patrick Dougherty spoke to an audience about his work "So Inclined" on Friday, Oct. 28, in light of its coming disassembly.



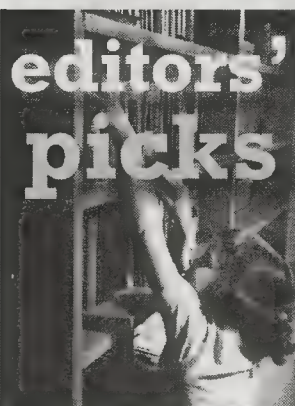
Courtesy

Patrick Dougherty created "So Inclined" in 2007 with an environmental mindset, using local silver maple saplings and enlisting help from Middlebury volunteers.

Once dismantled, the College plans to use the chipped saplings and branches that comprise "So Inclined" as mulch around campus, which will allow the sculpture to be reused in an environmentally-friendly manner that meshes with both the College's and Dougherty's concern for the planet. Dougherty, who began his career as a sculptor in 1985, has created 225 large stick structures worldwide, all of which are "site-specific." Dougherty elaborated, saying that he gathers materials, workers, and even inspiration once he has arrived at the planned site and does very little preparative work concerning his stick sculptures. Additionally, he always asks for permission before cutting the local saplings and branches he uses in his pieces, and the volunteers he enlists to help him are always locals, though not necessarily experienced in sculpture or working with sticks. Dougherty's concern for the environment was evident in the detailed description of his creative process, and even some of his final designs visibly reflect this passion.

"So Inclined" was raised in September 2007 in accordance with Dougherty's "site-specific" method: Dougherty first procured local silver maple saplings and then secured the help of 230 volunteers from around the town and College to raise "So Inclined" in a process that took three weeks, which Dougherty claims is the time frame in which he completes all his projects. Although Dougherty did not know what precise form he wanted when he started "So Inclined," he had a clear idea that his stick sculpture should be plainly visible from the street and impose itself on the College's students (hence its location near two intersecting sidewalks).

Originally scheduled to be taken down after two years, it is impressive that the sculpture has lasted thus far. CAPP (Committee for Art in Public Places) currently has no plans to fill the space once occupied by "So Inclined," though the committee will discuss the issue at its next meeting in February 2012. The chance that the College will commission Dougherty again is slim, however, as the world-renowned artist is currently booked with projects for the next two years.



editors'  
picks

04

**Dayve Hockett and Friends**  
MCFA Concert Hall  
8 p.m.

Affiliate artist Dayve Hockett plays a broad range of music, including his own original music on classical, steel string and electric guitars, mixing fingerstyle, rock, classical and jazz styles. Free.

04

**Pinhole Photography**  
Johnson Memorial Building  
Through Nov. 12

This exhibit of work by students in Professor of Studio Art Johnson Hudleston's course, "Black and White Photography," demonstrates the use of this unique technique. Sponsored by the Program in Studio Art. Free.

05

**Exit Through the Gift Shop**  
Dana Auditorium  
3 p.m., 8 p.m.

The Oscar-nominated documentary tells the story of how an amateur filmmaker attempted to locate and befriend the enigmatic graffiti artist Banksy, only to have him turn the camera back on its owner.

05

**Affiliate Artists Collaborative Concert**  
MCFA Concert Hall  
8 p.m.

The College's talented private music teachers show their musical prowess in this lighthearted, collaborative concert, featuring harmonicas, banjos, bagpipes, clarinet, voice and more. Free.



**THE REEL  
CRITIC**

by Chris Johnson

Power. No matter how dark its nature, mankind cannot resist its seductive lure. Combine this with a fascination for the monstrous, and one understands why a man like Adolf Hitler has regularly been a focus in the cinema (as a side note, I would highly recommend *Der Untergang*, Oliver Hirschbiegel's 2004 film about Hitler's final days). Joseph Stalin has also received a fair amount of attention. But what of Benito Mussolini? The only feature film I can think of that depicts Il Duce in any fashion is Charlie Chaplin's *The Great Dictator* — and that was in 1940.

My point in all this is that, for an American audience, Mussolini is still very much an unknown figure. This both helps and hurts *Vincere*, the 2009 Italian film from Marco Bellochio. *Vincere* is actually about Ida Dalse, the lover (and possibly first wife, as the film proposes) of Mussolini. The attraction to seeing this film is not so much to learn about her, but to learn more about him, which is why Bellochio opens and closes the film with a riveting sequence in which a young, pre-Il Duce Mussolini makes an argument to a small, crowded room. Filippo Timi, who plays Mussolini, is mesmerizing. When he steps forward, you immediately understand why this is a man who will one day rule Italy.

That being said, you do not comprehend why Ida Dalse so deeply falls for him. It is not that Giovanna Mezzogiorno, the actress who portrays Dalse, is untalented. It is more that the screenplay does not build up their relationship properly. She basically sees him give the aforementioned argument, runs into him in the street one night, and bam — she loves him. There are some fairly preposterous openings to romances in cinema (see: the Hollywood rom-com), but this still leaves something to be desired. Timi's Mussolini, however, is so captivating that you put that thought aside. The first portion of the film is about their time together, aligned with Mussolini's rise to power. This is thoroughly enthralling, and undoubtedly the best part of *Vincere*. And not just due to the acting, either; Bellochio cleverly uses a mix of titles and documentary footage in the course of portraying the birth of Il Duce. This footage is, at times, more interesting than the film itself, to the point that one almost wishes Bellochio had just made a documentary about Mussolini.

The real problem with the film happens about one-third of the way in, when Mussolini disappears from the show. Besides the occasional clip of the real Il Duce, the audience never sees him again. Timi's performance, and the story of the character he portrays, is so engaging that you miss it once it leaves. Dalse is just not as interesting. This is not to say the film is bad. There was nothing particularly wrong with Dalse's acting, the screenplay or the cinematography. But the viewer was never convinced of Dalse's obsessive passion for Mussolini, and since that is the driving point of the film, all of her actions seem almost unwarranted since he is no longer on screen to remind us of his power. And so this is what happened when the credits rolled for *Vincere*: I sat up, yawned and wished that someone would make a good film solely about Il Duce.

**Hugo Wolf Quartett entrances audience**by Jamie Lee  
STAFF WRITER

Hugo Wolf Quartett, a critically and internationally acclaimed Austrian string quartet, performed at the Kevin P. Mahaney '84 Center for the Arts concert hall on Friday, Oct. 28 as part of the Performing Arts Series in memory of F. W. Sunderman Jr. and Carolyn R. Sunderman.

Comprising violinists Sebastian Gürtler and Régis Bringolf, violist Gertrud Weinmeister and cellist Florian Berner, the quartet performed a truly captivating program of quartet pieces by Mozart, Webern and Schubert.

The night's program opened with Mozart's String Quartet No. 16 in E-flat Major, one of the six "Haydn" quartets composed by Mozart in response to Haydn's own set of six quartets, Opus 33. As the four players slowly raised their bows, the audience — tumultuous before but now deafeningly quiet — held its collective breath. Then, the Hugo Wolf Quartett broke the suspenseful silence with a passage of semitones that immediately explicated the quartet's 17-year prominence on the international chamber music scene.

The different passages of crescendos and decrescendos, the accented notes and the phrases in legato were simply impeccable and the four instruments sounded not harshly distinct but combined and richly layered. After easily entrancing the audience with the first movement in allegro, the tantalizing bright, airy notes of the violins continued into the second movement against the deep, harmonized texture of both the viola and the cello. In the last two movements, the signature Mozart phrasings appeared vibrantly in intermittent bursts particularly

in the closing movement of the perfectly executed quartet.

The next piece, String Quartet of 1905, was by Austrian composer Webern, whose compositions are reminiscent of the Romantic Era and of his contemporary composer Schoenberg. The quartet somberly led the audience through the eerie tonal melody of three-note cells in the muted opening passages of the piece that contrasted sharply with the "bright" phrasings of Mozart. With its multitude of emotions — ranging from anguish and turmoil to serenity, Webern's piece highlighted not only the superb tech-

The violinists conveyed the forceful tone of the first movement well (with Bringolf breaking his bow hair in a particularly emphatic passage of notes) but as the piece progressed into rolling phrases of warm, consoling notes by the violist and the cellist, some in the audience were lulled to sleep, only to be awoken by outbursts of violins. It was a masterly blend of harmony, weaved singularly with occasional distinct voiced melodies of the four instruments. Each kept the other in check as page after page, Schubert's narrative composed conversation of four instruments allowed the individuals of the quartet

to express his and her own artistic personality, unlike the two previous pieces.

As the quartet held the last note of silence, the equally soundless audience beheld a quartet on stage that was different from the ensemble that had just performed Mozart and Webern: this ensemble couldn't be defined with a mere adjective. Then, lost for words, the audience gave a standing ovation as the Viennese virtuosos bowed in unison.

Courtesy

The Hugo Wolf Quartett, an Austrian string quartet, performed last Friday, Oct. 28. The world-famous group played works by Mozart and Schubert as part of Homecoming Weekend.

nality of the Hugo Wolf Quartett but also their moving musicality. From the opening note to the climatic moments, the violinists Gürtler and Bringolf masterfully controlled. Webern's passionate piece; however, it was the violist Weinmeister and cellist Berner who truly brought the piece to life with their reverberating, emotional and incredibly rich sound.

The concert ended with Schubert's String Quartet No. 15 in G Major. As another complex composition, the piece emphasized various facets of the Hugo Wolf Quartett; differences in passages showed a quartet that was gentle, violent and passionate all at once.

With the exception of the regrettably small number who attended, most students missed out on this breath-taking performance, made free with the support from the Institute for Clinical Science and Art. Reflective of the works by the quartet's namesake, composer Hugo Wolf, the quartet's performance was intensely expressive. With the subtle traces of brimming individual expressions hidden underneath the indivisible fabric of harmony and unity, the Austrian ensemble's two-hour performance felt too short, and after applauding the quartet back one last time, the audience unwillingly filed out of the concert hall.

THIS WEEK  
ON**WRMC****ANNUAL FALL  
CONCERT****8:30 p.m.****Friday****McCullough  
Social Space**

Don't miss WRMC's annual fall concert featuring indie sensation Cymbals Eat Guitars and Giraffes! Giraffes! Tickets \$3 at go/boxoffice.

**Morning DSH****8 a.m.****Sunday**

Just had a rough break-up? We feel you. Tune in for the Morning DSH to indulge in some self pity. We'll be playing all the classic break up tunes and some new ones to add to your playlist for the next time you finally leave that jerk from Ross.

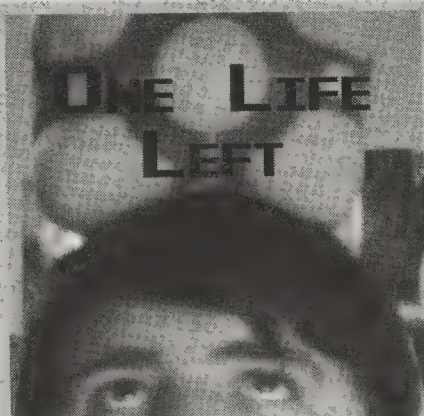
**Bringing It All  
Back Home****8 a.m.****Wednesday**

This show exposes College students and the residents of Champlain Valley area to southern music in all of its various shapes, sizes and forms. Each week we pick a different area of southern music to expose to our northern brethren. We'd love to have all of y'all tune in, and feel free to call in at any time. We gladly take any and all requests even if your request breaks genre rules because it is likely that we will be able to connect your request with some facet of southern music.

**Be sure to listen in to these stellar shows on 91.1  
FM or online at**

**<http://wrmc.middlebury.edu>**





by Santiago Azpurua-Borras

**Game** | *Batman Arkham City*  
**Console** | Xbox 360, PS3, PC  
**Rating** | Teen

Like films, video games have a tendency to adapt other works to their medium. Most commonly, movies undergo such a metamorphosis, not always for the best. Graphic novels are usually a close second, and from an outside point of view this seems to make a lot of sense. These stories contain a well-established protagonist with a clear objective and a gallery of rogues to provide plenty of obstacles for said protagonist. It makes perfect sense to adapt these stories into video games; however, the truth is that superhero games tend to be rushed, poorly developed and shortsighted. Game developer Rocksteady sought to change that and created what was considered to be the best superhero game of all time, *Bat-*

*man Arkham Asylum*, in 2006. Five years later Rocksteady invites players to yet again step into the large black boots of the Caped Crusader himself in *Batman Arkham City*.

*Arkham City* takes place six months after the events of the first game. James Quincy, the warden of the asylum where the first game took place, is now mayor of Gotham City and has walled off the slums and tossed in every prison inmate, asylum patient, Batman villain and political prisoner (whose only crime was the investigation of the new prison) and dubbed this new social-monstrosity Arkham City. Not only is the city a tragically beautiful environment to explore, housed with secrets and clever Batman references, but also it sets up a fantastic plot throughout.

The main plot finds Batman within the city investigating a man named Dr. Hugo Strange, a terrifying new antagonist who holds the greatest anti-Batman weapon ever known — his secret identity. Along the way, Batman reunites with some of his villains both old and new, all of which are an incredible delight to see in full fluid movement. While the plot is very strong throughout the beginning and middle, it loses a lot of horsepower in the resolution but saves itself with a shocking and an I'm-not-crying-there's-something-in-my-eye ending. This is only supplemented by the mind-blowing voice acting of the cast. Mr. Freeze is a tragic and sympathetic character (no Schwarzenegger ice puns here) while Mark Hamill and Kevin Conroy return as the Joker and Batman, respectively. These villains aren't all talk either;

unlike its predecessor, *Arkham City*'s boss fights are incredibly enjoyable and accurately reflect the abilities and personality of the villain you are facing. Mr. Freeze's fight is a prime example of this and is one of the most enjoyable (albeit a tad stressful) boss fights I have had in a long time.

If you bought a new copy of the game, the player will be treated to four missions where one plays as Catwoman, Batman's hypersexual counterpart. Her four missions are about her trying to loot Arkham City vaults for all their wealth, and she has her own Riddler trophies and move set. Instead of a cape, Catwoman uses a whip and is generally more agile than the Dark Knight. While a fun distraction at first, I found myself growing impatient with this character and wanting to return to the main story.

The plot is moved along by completing main objectives that can be found throughout the city. Meeting these objectives, beating up bad guys and finding collectibles all net Batman experience. Batman can then use these points to buy upgrades for his armor and various gadgets. This is great, as most upgrades change combat/gameplay to always keep things fresh, though some are just flat-out stupid.

Alongside the main story, there are nine major side quests to complete. What I enjoyed about these quests is that some of them really force the player to actively search these out, such as the Enigma Conundrum, which has Batman playing mind games with the Riddler. Riddler has hidden over 400 collectibles around Arkham City including trophies, solutions to his various

riddles and ultimately, a *Saw*-style hostage situation where one must use quick wit and even quicker button presses to save a civilian.

One of these missions, while incredibly short, was my personal favorite. I don't want to spoil anything but I do recommend that the player should always listen to Alfred.

Between the main plot, side quests and Riddler collectibles, this game will give you plenty to do. However, I do feel the game does sometime isolate non-Batman fans as the game's mythos pulls exponentially more content from the comics than it does the films, which I feel is how the majority of people get their Bat-fix. This becomes blatant on some of the Riddler questions that require specific knowledge of the *Batman* universe to make sense. (Do you know the name of the island Bane grew up on? When I say the name "Scarface," do you think of a famous drug lord or a wooden puppet? Do you know who characters like Calendar Man or Solomon Grundy are?)

This isn't even a complaint. I'm glad a game isn't afraid to cater to its smaller, core audience and doesn't feel a need to go after the "Call of Duty crowd."

*Arkham City* is not only the best Batman game, best super-hero game and best-licensed game but it is also an easy contender for game of the year. With its engrossing plot, immersive environments and an innate ability to make the player see what's around the next corner, *Arkham City* has earned my top praise.

*Batman Arkham City* gets a 10/10.

## FACULTY SHOW EXPLORES ROMANCE, COMEDY

This year's faculty show, *Big Love*, played in Wright Memorial Theatre over Homecoming Weekend. The funny and touching event featured 17 Middlebury actors and was directed by Assistant Professor of Theatre Claudio Medieros '90. Based loosely on Aeschylus' *The Suppliants*, *Big Love* took the audience on a wild ride from Greece to Italy, following the fates of 50 Greek brides who are betrothed against their will to their American cousins.



Courtesy

Lucy Van Atta '12 crawls in desperation in this weekend's production of "Big Love."



Courtesy

Aubrey Dube '12 gesticulated before the disgruntled Lucy Van Atta '12 at the faculty show.

## Have an awesome research project?

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# Collaborative concert showcases Hepburn Zoo as concert venue

by Eliza Wallace  
STAFF WRITER

On Friday, Oct. 28, three bands from three different states converged in the Hepburn Zoo for a rollicking night of exuberant sounds. WRMC and the Gamut Room arranged the show with support from Atwater Commons, featuring Alpenglow, The Milkman's Union and Caroline Smith and the Good Night Sleeps. Alpenglow is a local project of three Middlebury students and a UVM student. The Milkman's Union hails from Maine and Caroline Smith and the Good Night Sleeps are touring the East Coast all the way from Minnesota. The individual who was truly instrumental in bringing Caroline Smith to Middlebury, however, was Minnesota native and Alpenglow member Elori Kramer '13.5.

"I got to know Caroline Smith and the Good Night Sleeps the winter before starting Middlebury, during my Febmester," says Kramer. "Since then, we've played a bunch of shows together." Kramer pushed to bring the band to Middlebury, scrape together enough money from different sources, and organize a

successful event. The Milkman's Union had been playing a couple shows in the area with Caroline Smith and agreed to join the concert as well. The three bands complemented each other well and each played substantial yet succinct sets. Transitions between the bands did not drag on too long and on the whole the show kept up an engaging pace.

In its previous and current manifestations, Alpenglow's repertoire has garnered enough exposure on campus that audience members can sing along, a clear credit to their song-crafting abilities and consistent performances. The band has developed from a simple phenomenon of collaborative talent into the darling of the local music scene. For this concert, they reworked their songs in electric, which, while equally stirring, generated a very different quality than their all-acoustic renditions in the earlier September "Woods" show. There was slightly less dancing than during Alpenglow's Munford House show, but the audience was extremely enthusiastic throughout the opening and following acts. The Milkman's Union has played at Middlebury twice before and fit well in between Alpenglow's and Caroline's sets.

Rarely are there anything but smaller scale theater performances presented in the Hepburn Zoo, so it was a new and perfect venue for a concert. It had the intimate feel of a dark music club or bar and wasn't too crowded or too hard to fill. There were a few sound blips typical of a college concert but for the most part the acoustics worked well in the space.

Caroline Smith and the Good Night Sleeps generally falls in a folk pop category, but they self-describe their music as "storybook folk" or "post folk." Smith, 22, has a lovely pixie voice that details boy troubles with a freshness and poignancy that is much appreciated amidst today's lackluster slurry of indie music. By the middle of her set, the entire audience was dancing. Her incredible vocal range was fully revealed in her encore song and left everyone marveling long after the show.

"I thought the atmosphere was lively and relaxed and friendly and it was so great that it was free," said audience member Rebekah Wilson '14. "I wish there were shows that nice coming more frequently to this campus."

## Students scramble in 24-hour film competition

by Anna Flinchbaugh  
STAFF WRITER

The most dedicated party animal would be put to shame by the schedule of five film-making students this weekend. From early in evening on Friday, Oct. 28, to late on Sunday, Oct. 30, their action was nonstop and their pace was furious as they competed in Sleepless in Burlington.

These five students — Adam Benay '13, Hannah Epstein '12, Mike Gadomski '13, Hunter Nolan '13 and Andrew Powers '12 — were participating in the Sleepless in Burlington 24-Hour Film Competition. As the name suggests, the team had only 24 hours in which to put together a cohesive short film integrating a set of proscribed elements. This year, as a nod to both the Vermont film festival that the competition was a part of and the timing of the festival, the set consisted of candy corn, an iconic Burlington location, a local actor portraying the character "Canada Guy" and two lines from a list taken from classic horror films.

The Sleepless in Burlington

competition is an offshoot of the Sleepless in Lake Placid 24-hour film competition, established in 2006. A team from the College entered the competition in 2009. Although the competition was closed to schools outside of New York in 2010, Middlebury was still represented, with D. E. Axinn Professor of English & Creative Writing Jay Parini appearing as a special guest. This year, Murphy's rapport with competition organizer Barry Snyder helped Middlebury secure a spot at the inaugural Burlington event.

As the only team from outside of Burlington, the Middlebury team was heading into the competition with even more restrictions than those already in place.

Gadomski explained that, "they put us up in a hotel ... [because] they felt bad that we were the only team not from Burlington."

However, rather than being overwhelmed by such restrictions, the team decided to embrace them. They seized upon their hotel for both their pri-

mary filming location and for the mood that unites the film. Gadomski noted that "hotels have...this eerie sparseness." This sparseness married well with both the limits of 24-hour format and the Hitchcockian influences that Nolan brought to the competition, leading the team to craft a vision for their film in which everything was, as Gadomski puts it, "a little off."

In the final film, titled "Operator 676," this vision carries through to every element. The storyline is vaguely surreal. The dialogue is spare and cryptic. The soundscapes are warped and slightly jarring. The cinematography utilizes usual angles and variable lighting. The editing is abrupt. The direction lends a sinister bent to even the most banal lines.

The clarity with which these elements can be distilled is a reflection of perhaps the team's greatest strength. As Epstein noted heading into the competition, "everyone was brought onto this team because they are especially talented in one area." This allowed for what Gadomski

referred to as, "very clear delineations of roles." Such delineation was crucial for success in the 24-hour format. As Nolan explains, "the key to a short film is efficiency."

This efficiency allowed the team to, in 24 short and sleepless hours, put their film together without, as Nolan recalled, "cutting any corners." In the end, he said, the team, "made exactly what [they] wanted to make." While the team's film did not win at the competition, Nolan says that the judging ultimately felt like a "completely external force." "We're walking away empty handed," he continues, "but could not have asked for a greater success."

Nolan and Gadomski would like, on behalf of their team, to emphasize that this success would not have been possible without the fantastic support of their mentor. As Nolan reiterates, they would like to give a "HUGE thank you to Ethan Murphy."

"Operator 676" can be found online on the Film and Media Culture's Vimeo page (<http://vimeo.com/31380567>).

## BOOKING IT

by Amelia Furlong

Author | Herman Melville  
Book | *Moby Dick*

Getting through *Moby Dick* didn't seem intimidating at first. I'd taken a class with Charles A. Dana Professor of Political Science Murray Dry last semester, after all, so I felt up to the heavy reading load. It is also one of the most famous American novels of all time. If countless generations had done it before me, I felt up to the task. I was in the *Moby Dick* musical in high school (yes, there is a musical) and the story had seemed passé at the time, but the passion with which my professor spoke of the book made me more excited than nervous for the challenge. She did warn us that some of us would hate the book, but she also said that for some people, *Moby Dick* is the kind of book you wait a lifetime to find, and that stumbling across it can change your life. I don't know if I am quite at this stage of adoration, but there is something about the book that grips me in a way I never expected.

It's easy to get lost in the seemingly monotonous odes to whale anatomy and whaling techniques, but behind the tedium there is something beautiful occurring. The readers' journey through the book becomes akin to the maniacal quest that Ahab and his crew have embarked on. *Moby Dick* begins to symbolize that which all humans long for but can never have, something that I think college students — constantly hounded by elusive dreams and unattainable ambitions — can relate to. Ahab says something to this effect midway through his journey when he tries to articulate why it is he must relentlessly pursue the whale. He says, "How can the prisoner reach outside except by thrusting through the wall? To me, the white whale is that wall, shoved near to me. Sometimes I think there's naught beyond."

Now, I wouldn't pretend to know exactly what it is that the white whale himself symbolizes. Critics have argued about it for more than a century, and I am certainly no Melville scholar. But to me the above passage is key. The white whale on some level is the barrier that keeps us humans from reaching our full potential and attaining infinite knowledge; this barrier keeps us so far away and yet so close that we even wonder if it is possible to achieve this. At the College, we push ourselves so hard, never relenting until we have outdone ourselves, and that is why this book resonates particularly with me. Captain Ahab's obsessive quest to eliminate that which holds him back is a timeless allegory, and is at the heart of why *Moby Dick* is the classic that it is.

Even if I sometimes find myself turning pages that my eyes have read and my brain has not registered, every line is worth it. Deep inside the pages is a rich and layered text that brings me closer to the heart of what we will be like once we learn to break down those barriers — to slay our own white whales.

## artsbrief

by Deirdre Sackett  
ARTS & SCIENCE EDITOR

Comedian Judah Friedlander left the crowd roaring on Friday, Oct. 28, in the McCullough Social Space. The standup comedian was brought to the College as part of the Homecoming weekend festivities, and from the energy of the audience at the Friday night performance, it was evident that this was one of the highlight events of the weekend. Before Friedlander even made his appearance, students were shouting his name, hoping that the comedian would peek out from behind the curtain onstage.

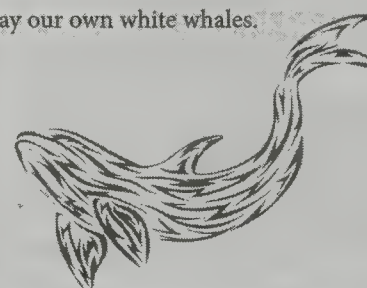
Friedlander eventually did appear to take the microphone. He sported his trademark sloppy appearance, wearing jeans and a denim jacket emblazoned with the title "World Champion." Underneath the jacket, he wore a yellow shirt that proclaimed the title once more. Early on in the performance, Friedlander was quick to explain that he was, in fact, the "World Champion" — yet of what, he never deigned to explain. He continued onward with his snarky diatribe, elaborating on his

## COMEDIAN AND ACTOR JUDAH FRIEDLANDER PERFORMS AS PART OF HOMECOMING WEEKEND FESTIVITIES

stunning karate skills, beyond-Chuck-Norris super-strength and sexual prowess that could fuel a car. This was all part of Friedlander's trademark comedy "schtick" in which he claims to be amazing at nearly everything possible and doing things that normally would be impossible.

Beyond his usual song-and-dance, the highlights of Friedlander's performance were his improvised deadpan deliveries and playful harassment of audience members. Girls wearing scarves indoors, undeclared first-years, loud laughter and students in costume were all targets of Friedlander's scrutiny. Heaven forbid you got up to go to the bathroom — Friedlander would make your exit known to the entire audience.

In addition to standup comedy, Friedlander has appeared in several comedies including *Meet the Parents* and *Zoolander*. He has also made appearances on VH1's *Best Week Ever* and currently plays Frank Rositano on *30 Rock*.





## MCRC falls to BC in last regular season game

By Sam Hathaway  
STAFF WRITER

The MCRC's wild ride through its first Division I regular season came to a close last weekend with a 10-15 loss to Boston College. The last time these two teams met was back in fall of 2009 when BC bested Middlebury 24-13 in a preseason tune-up. Only one score separated the two teams this time around, but at the end of the day, Middlebury had to settle for a .500 record to end the season.

Boston took advantage of an early opportunity to establish good field position by kicking into the wind, pinning Middlebury back in its own half. The elements left their mark on this game as strong winds, freezing weather and rain combined to make it tough going for both sides throughout the game.

However, it was Boston College that managed to take advantage in the first half, with two tries resulting from some missed tackles by the Middlebury side. Middlebury attempted to rebound with some great running on offense by Zach Withers '11.5 and forwards captain Rowan Kelner '12, but came up just short. Backs Captain Brian Sirkia's '12.5 only kick was off the mark, and the MCRC headed into the second half staring down a 10-0 deficit.

Things soon got even worse as BC opened the second half with another try to make it 15-0, then missing the conversion attempt. That would be the last opportunity for BC,

however, as Middlebury shuffled their lineup and came roaring back, putting the Boston defense on its heels for the rest of the half.

The Middlebury forwards continued their dominance in the lineouts and it payed off midway through the second half. First-year Laird Silsby '15 made his presence felt in his return from an injury, driving hard in the maul after a lineout and allowing John Hawley '14 to tear into the end zone for Middlebury's first try of the day.

Sirkia missed the conversion but refused to be kept out of the end zone himself, as he pressed the attack, breaking ankles and freezing defenders all day on his way to Middlebury's second try. Unfortunately he missed the conversion, bringing the two teams to a combined 0-6 kicking, and preserving the five-point deficit. The comeback proved to be too little too late, however, as the clock wound down on the game and Middlebury was forced to break even on the season.

The first chapter in the MCRC's Division I saga had a bittersweet ending. The loss and the departure of Danny Powers and Zach Withers, who both provided steadfast leadership and ferocious energy, will be tough to swallow as the team heads into the offseason. Otherwise, the future looks bright. With many young players able to get playing time this season, and so many flashes of brilliance therein, it is hard not to like the look of a squad that proved it belongs in Division I rugby.

## Panthers defeat Colby to advance in NESCACs

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 28

into the second period. Middlebury kept the pressure on for the duration of the second half, and it took some timely goaltending and stand-out defensive plays on the part of the Mules to keep themselves in the game. However, with time winding down and Colby's chances of advancement looking increasingly slim, Kirk drove the proverbial dagger into the Mules' heart, scoring her second goal of the contest with just four minutes remaining. This goal, her 13th of the season, all but sealed the deal for the Panthers, who advanced to the NESCAC finals for the sixth consecutive year.

"Winning the first-round NESCAC game on Senior Day was really special," said Wagner. "It was a great way to celebrate our seniors Katie, Kait and Devin, who have truly been rockstars this season."

Middlebury will play Williams this weekend for the second time in as many weeks. The final rounds of this year's NES-

CAC tournament will be played at Amherst, the conference's number one overall seed. If the Panthers are able to defeat the Ephs again, they will play the winner of the Amherst-Wesleyan game for the NESCAC title on Sunday, Nov. 6.



Paul Gerard, Photos Editor

Julie Favorito '14 assisted both Madding's goal vs. Williams and Kirk's tally vs. Colby.

## Panthers will face Lord Jeffs in NESCAC semifinal match

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 28

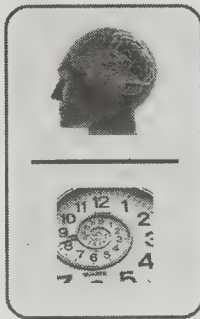
previously held by Heidi Howard '98 who scored 66 goals over her Middlebury career.

Greer added another first half goal with just over two minutes left before the break, again off a penalty corner. Middlebury took a 2-0 lead into halftime.

That would be plenty for the Panthers, who added another insurance goal in the second half. Jackson tallied her second assist of the day, feeding Margaret Souther '14 off yet another penalty corner, and that would be all she wrote. Becca Shaw '12 was solid

in goal for the Panthers, who have not lost since September 24th when they fell to 3-2 in overtime to undefeated Bowdoin — the top-ranked team in the country.

Middlebury advances to the NESCAC semifinals where they will play Amherst, who handed the Panthers their only other loss of the season. The Lord Jeffs won the first meeting 3-1 at home. The semifinal game will be played at tournament host Bowdoin. The ninth-ranked Panthers (13-2) have an eleven game winning streak on the line while the 11th-ranked Lord Jeffs have won nine of their last 10 games.



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Women's rugby finishes strong season 3-3

By Dillon Hupp  
SPORTS EDITOR

There is no such thing as an easy year when you're transitioning up a division in college athletics. That being said, the Middlebury women's rugby team performed admirably if not perfectly in their first year as a member of Division II. Middlebury finished with a record of three wins and three losses, though one of those losses came in the quarterfinals of the playoffs against the University of Rhode Island. Middlebury played five regular season games, all against NESCAC opponents, finishing with a record of 3-2.

The Panthers opened the 2011 season with a tough loss at Tufts, falling 31-0. That loss would mark the end of an impressive string of consecutive regular-season victories for Middlebury, dating back to their previous seasons playing Division III rugby. However, the girls bounced back, taking their home opener against Amherst the following week by a score of 22-0. The Middlebury backline especially impressed in the Amherst game, with the Panthers' four tries coming from center Julianna Gardner '13, scrum-half Jessica Berry '13,

wing Kayla Bien '13 and fullback Sarah "Mini" Minahan '14. The Panthers would make the trek to Bowdoin the following week, but unfortunately found that their long bus ride would precede an even longer game, as Middlebury fell by the lopsided score of 62-10. However, the game ended on a high note, as the Panthers scored two of the last three tries, including the game's final tally.

After the loss to Bowdoin, the Panthers kept their playoff hopes alive with a clutch win in their most thrilling contest of the year.

Playing Colby at home, Middlebury jumped out to an early 7-0 lead after putting on a kick-blocking clinic and Sarah Pfander '13 recovered the ball in the try zone. After a quick Colby response, Berry put a penalty kick through the uprights, and the score was 10-7 Middlebury at the half. But the Mules came out punching in the second half, and put two converted tries on the board to stake themselves to a 21-10 lead with little time remaining. With a newfound intensity, the Panthers willed the ball down the field and Berry scored a try from short distance. She also converted it to make the score 21-17. Then, with less than

five minutes left, Gardner took a pass on the wing after a nice quick phase through the Middlebury back line. Rushing down the sideline, Gardner outran the Colby defense and touched down the score just inside the try zone for the winning tally. After a few more moments of tense play, Middlebury claimed the dramatic victory, 22-21.

The Panthers played their final regular-season game against rival Williams, and the game was not as close as the final score might have indicated. The Panthers returned fly-half Evan Pagano '12 from injury and she made an immediate impact, running in the first try of the game. After tries by Berry and Marissa Shaw '14 and a penalty kick from Berry, Middlebury led 18-0 going into halftime. Williams added a consolation try in the second half, but that would be all they could muster as the Panthers won by a final score of 18-7. The win would be the last of Middlebury's season before their discouraging loss to URI in the quarterfinals of the New England playoffs, but it added an overall feeling of confidence for a team finishing their first season in Division II.

"I think it was a fairly tough season due to the number of injuries that occurred

in the late summer and the beginning of the year," said prop Bee Ndlovu '12. "But I was really impressed by how people rallied and stepped up to the challenge of changing divisions. I think the fact that we made it to the playoffs is proof that we belong in Division II."

Captain Melissa Hayes '12 echoed Ndlovu's sentiments about last season, and remained upbeat about the club's prospects for future success in Division II.

"The future is looking very promising for the club, especially with the greater challenge that we are offered by the move up in divisions," she said. "We have a great group with some amazing coaches and experienced players, but would love to have more players join. If anyone is interested in playing rugby, they are welcome to come out in the spring!"

Middlebury women's rugby will continue to practice in the spring semester while gearing up for their next season in Division II next fall.

The women's rugby team should look forward to increased success in their second season in Division II rugby and regain their form that took them to two undefeated seasons in Division III.

PANTHER SCOREBOARD				
Date	Sport	Vs.	Results	Comments
10/29	Men's Soccer	Wesleyan	3-2 W	The Panthers upset the second-ranked Wesleyan to advance to the semifinals.
10/29	Women's Soccer	Colby	2-0 W	Scarlet Kirk '14 scores both goals for Middlebury in their quarterfinal shut out against Colby.
10/29	Field Hockey	Williams	3-0 W	Lauren Greer '13 became the Panthers all-time leading scorer with two goals Saturday.
10/28 10/29	Volleyball	Hamilton Williams	3-0 W 3-0 W	The Panthers won their seventh game in eight tries, blanking Williams for a two-game sweep in the NESCAC Quad at Amherst.
10/29	Football	Trinity	42-7 L	In his first start, Andy Dittich '13 led the Panthers to the first touchdown the Bantams have allowed in the first quarter.

BY THE NUMBERS	
21	Number of RBIs World Series MVP David Freese totaled in 18 playoff games, setting a new postseason record.
1	Number of strikes the Rangers needed to clinch their first ever World Series in game six — twice!
68	Number of goals Lauren Greer '13 has scored in her amazing career at Middlebury. She passed Heidi Howard '98 as Middlebury's all time leading goal-scorer.
300	Number of wins men's head soccer coach David Saward has accumulated in his 27 years coaching the Panthers. His overall record is a sparkling 300-97-47.
2.8	Number of yards per carry for Tennessee Titans "star" running back Chris Jonson. CJ2K signed a contract this season that guaranteed him at least \$30 million.

Editors' Picks				
Questions	Katie Siegner	Damon Hatheway	Dillon Hupp	Alex Edel
Will the football team score more or less than 30 points this weekend?	MORE It's time.	MORE Mac Foote will return to action and lead the Panthers to victory.	LESS We won't need to score a bunch. Hamilton is averaging like negative six points per game.	LESS Mac Foote is a star but it is unknown weather he will play or not.
Who will win the "game of the century" between #1 LSU and #2 Alabama?	LSU Just because Dillon's record is good doesn't mean his team will win.	ALABAMA Haven't you seen how good the ESPN ads are? And they've got the best player in Trent Richardson. Two words: Roll Tide.	LSU My team is Arkansas, Katie. So ideally, both teams would lose.	ALABAMA Tail gates always get the home team riled up.
What will be the score of the women's soccer NESCAC semifinal game against Williams?	2-1 PANTHERS And how "sweep" it will be.	2-1 PANTHERS The women are feeling it. They have so much momentum Katie might even get her picks right this week.	1-0 PANTHERS If it ain't broke, don't fix it. Just like last time.	2-1 PANTHERS Damon knows sports and Katie plays soccer ...
Will the field hockey team avenge their early season loss to Amherst this weekend?	YES They're goin' all the way this time.	OH YES They haven't lost since September 24th #winning.	YES Damon stole that particular bit of information from me. But seriously. Since September.	YES Lauren Greer '13 is on fire and the team has a massive winning streak behind them!
Can the men's soccer team advance past Amherst to the NESCAC finals?	YES They make their living off of playoff season.	NO The win over Wesleyan was a major upset and I don't see them shocking the Lord Jeffs.	NO They lost 3-0 earlier this year. I don't see us being three goals better this time around.	NO Although last weekend showed their true colors, I am going to have to go with their record on this one.
Career Record	62-78 (.443)	15-15 (.500)	77-65 (.542)	37-42 (.468)



# Panthers drop to 2-4, lose 42-7 to Bantams

By Damon Hatheway

SPORTS EDITOR

Apparently Trinity did not get the message that Saturday was Homecoming. The NESCAC-leading Bantams, who now support a 6-0 record, returned two first quarter interceptions for touchdowns en route to a 42-7 victory over the Panthers (2-4).

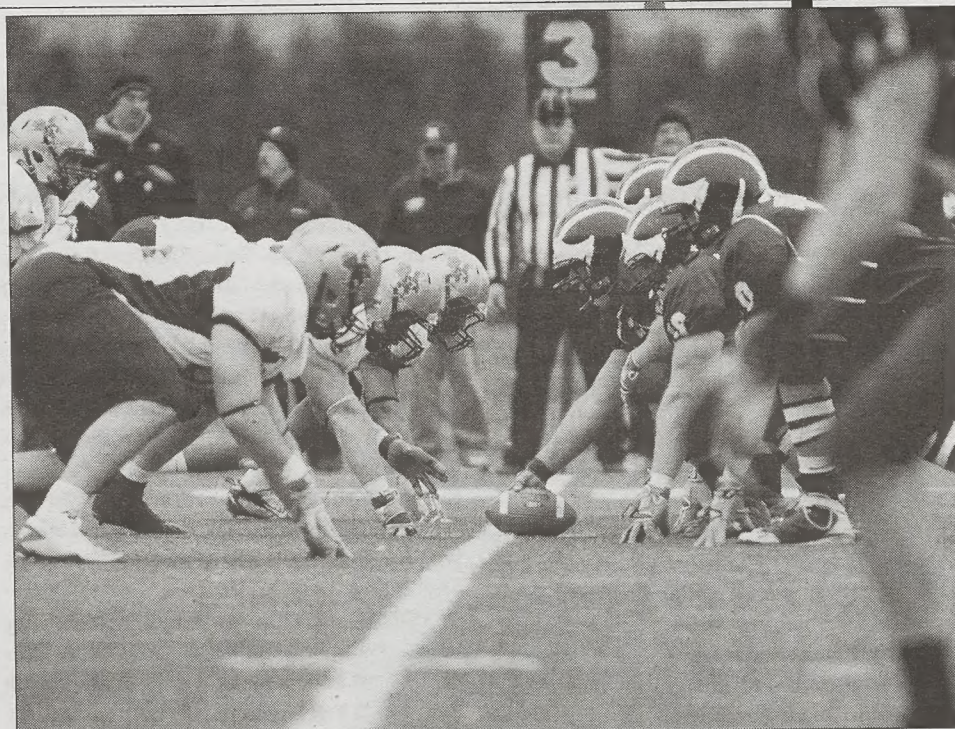
While the Bantams defense demonstrated why it holds teams to an astounding five points per game, the Panthers — who were playing without starting quarterback Mac Foote '13.5 — were able to move the ball early against the vaunted Bantams defense. Andy Dittrich '13, in his first start as a Panther, recovered from an opening-possession interception to lead the Panthers to a first quarter touchdown — the first points Trinity has given up to any team in the first quarter of a game this season. After an eight-yard run from Dittrich put the Panthers inside the one-yard line, Remi Ashkar '13 tied the game at seven with a one-yard touchdown run with 9:18 remaining in the first quarter.

After the defense forced Trinity to punt, the Panthers' next possession resulted in another touchdown — once again for the Bantams. On third and six Dittrich appeared to have Nick Resor '12 open for a first down, but Bantams safety Rae Haynes stepped in front of the pass and took it 29 yards for a touchdown.

"He made a couple mistakes early," head coach Bob Ritter said about Dittrich's performance. "It's really hard to simulate game speed [in practice] and particularly against the best team in the league. As the game went on he adjusted nicely. By and large other than the two mistakes he threw to the right guys and made the right reads. Small mistakes against really good teams lead to big plays. But once he got up to game speed he did a nice job."

Dittrich started in place of Foote who was injured leading a game-winning drive against Bates the week before. The Panthers survived a wild game against the Bobcats that featured a blocked punt from Phil Cutler '12 to give the Panthers a lead late in the fourth quarter.

The Panthers rallied back from a twelve point deficit in the third quarter after Foote



Andrew Podrygula, Photos Editor

The Panthers dropped their homecoming game 42-7 to Trinity on Saturday.

threw an interception that was returned for a touchdown. The sophomore quarterback out of Nobles High School atoned for his earlier pick with a last minute touchdown pass to Nick Resor with 12 seconds left in the game.

Foote led the Panthers with 412 yards passing and five touchdowns, completing 39 of 53 passes. Foote was not only named NESCAC Offensive Player of the Week for his performance but he also received the Gold Helmet Award from the New England Football Writers' Gridiron Club.

In his place Dittrich completed 18 of 41 passes for 144 yards and two interceptions. The junior from Woodbury, Minn. played better than his stats would suggest, successfully moving the ball against one of the best defenses in Division III football, let alone the NESCAC.

While the Panthers found intermittent success through the air, they continued to struggle to kick-start the running game as Ashkar totaled just 40 yards on 17 carries before leaving the game with an injury in the second quarter. Running against the top run defense in the NESCAC, very few rushing lanes materialized for the Panthers leading carrier.

On the defensive side of the game the Panthers held the dangerous Trinity backfield to less than five yards per carry. Ben Crick and Evan Bunker were held to just 56 and 33 yards respectively.

"I thought our defense handled the run game pretty well," said Ritter. "But when you

do that you get exposed to the deep ball and that's what hurt us."

After the Bantam defense spotted its offense 14 points off of two first quarter interception returns, Trinity finally found a rhythm on offense in the second quarter when AJ Jones made his first of two long catches behind the Panthers secondary.

Midway through the second quarter, on third and 11 from the Bantams 25 yard-line, Jones took advantage of a slip in the Panthers' secondary for a 67-yard reception that brought Trinity to the Panthers' eight-yard line, setting up the Bantams first offensive touchdown. Jones struck again on the ensuing drive, hauling in a 32-yard touchdown pass from Headley Jennings for a 28-7 Bantams lead. With two big plays on offense and two on defense the Bantams took advantage of a Panthers error in special teams, recovering a muffed punt at the Middlebury 21-yard line for the final score.

The Panthers played well, but once again fell victim to recurring mistakes as big plays and crucial turnovers cost the Panthers any chance of a Homecoming upset. On the season the Panthers rank last in the NESCAC with a negative 10-turnover margin.

"I think that's been the story of our losses unfortunately," Ritter said. "We've played well in spots and we can compete with everybody, but we've given up big plays that have put us in holes."

The Panthers host Hamilton (2-4) Saturday in the final home game of the season. Foote and Ashkar are questionable to play.



Andrew Podrygula, Photos Editor

Remi Ashkar '13 rushes up the middle on one of his 17 carries Saturday.

## Michael Schmidt '12 wins NESCAC title race on one shoe

By Brandt Silver-Korn

STAFF WRITER

On Oct. 29 the Middlebury cross country team travelled to Amherst College to compete in the NESCAC Championships, in what was the first meet of the Panthers' championship portion of the season. Middlebury entered the race with high expectations, as they hoped to repeat their historic sweep of the race from last season. However, while both the men and women displayed strong performances, the pieces needed for victory did not come together; the women placed second and the men finished in fourth.

Addie Tousley '13 and co-captain Margo Cramer '12 led the women's team, finishing in third place and fourth place, respectively, out of 123 competitors. They completed the six-kilometer course in 22:44 and 22:56, or 5:59 and 6:02 per mile, and only lost to Chiara Del Piccolo from Williams, and Keri Lambert from Amherst.

Co-captain Chelsea Ward-Waller '12 and Emily Singer '14 crossed the line next for the Panthers, finishing side by side in 10th and 11th place, respectively, with a time of 23:10. Emily Attwood '14 rounded out Middlebury's pack, placing 14th in a time of 23:19.

The Panthers scored an impressive 42 total points, but fell to Williams College, whose total was a mere 34 points. Amherst,

the third place college, trailed substantially, with 105 points.

While third-ranked Middlebury was disappointed not to top first-ranked Williams College, the Panthers remain optimistic about their performance.

"The middle two miles of the course were incredibly muddy," said Cramer. "This played to our strength, but when we left the mud and hit the trails, the team lost a few crucial places to Williams. All in all, though, the women had a great race. Hopefully moving forward our top five will be able to make up the 4-5 seconds that Williams had on many of our scorers and [we will be able to] claim the regional title."

On the men's side, co-captain Michael Schmidt '12 led the Panthers in impressive fashion. After placing second last year, Schmidt beat out 128 competitors to become the second Panther in Middlebury history to win a men's NESCAC title. Schmidt completed the eight-kilometer course in 25:51 or 5:11 per mile, and also ran most of the race in a single shoe after losing the other one in the third mile of the mud-covered course.

Jack Davies '13, Greg Krathwohl '14, Nate Sans '14 and Kevin Wood '15 rounded out the rest of the Panthers scoring pack, placing 12th, 23rd, 26th and 33rd respectively. With 94 points, the Panthers fell to Williams, Bowdoin and Bates. Like the

women, however, the men remain optimistic and composed for their more important races to come.

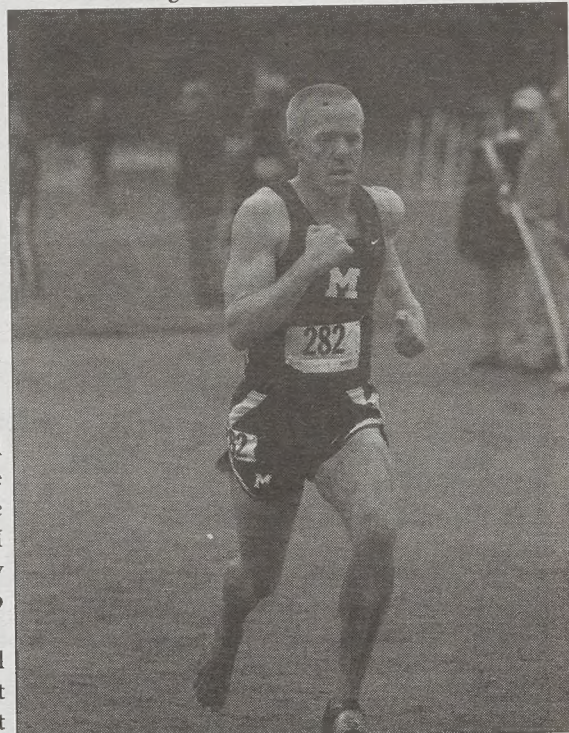
"I don't think we were as prepared as we could have been to tackle a sloppy course," said Schmidt. "Some guys had really impressive days but our men as a whole had the worst race of the season. It's disappointing because we won last year, but our training is focused on the very end of the season so in some ways it is good to have a rough race now and be more level headed going into ECACs and Regionals."

The Panthers will compete in the ECAC Championships on Nov. 5 at Williams College and will then travel to Bowdoin on Nov. 12 to vie for a spot at the National Championships in Oshkosh, Wis.

"It is nice to have a bit of a wake-up call that keeps us hungry and makes us realize how much we have to be on the top of our game in the next few weeks," said Schmidt. "I know that everyone will do what they need to do and we have two weeks to get ready. Nervous, but excited."

2010 was the first year in school history that Middlebury College sent not only the perennially dominant women's team to the National Championship but the men's team as well.

This season, with Nicole Wilkerson at the helm as head coach for the first time, the Panthers have taken strides towards an impressive transition from the Terry Aldrich era, and are now poised to make the program's presence on the national level a recurring one.



Courtesy

Michael Schmidt '12 took the victory in the men's race.



Athletics Department does its part

By Katie Siegner  
SPORTS EDITOR

At Middlebury, sustainability is not an event; it is a process. It does not just occur; it is incorporated. The Athletics Department may not be the traditional standard-bearer for green living at the College, yet it is undeniable that the influence of sustainability has permeated the walls (and fields) of the athletics complex. From the presence of a sustainability liaison in ski team coach Andrew Gardner to the incorporation of sustainability in future building plans, the word has become an ethos in the Panthers athletics program. While the presence of green practices in athletics might not be as visible as the touch-screen environmental monitor in the Franklin Environmental Center at Hillcrest, members of the Athletics Department are consistently incorporating new and sustainable actions into their operating model.

"There are formal systemic mechanisms to make sure these issues stay in front of us," said Director of Athletics Erin Quinn. The ongoing lines of communication established with Sustainability Director Jack Byrne and Dean of Environmental Affairs Nan Jenks-Jay, for example, have helped to put the lens of sustainability on many of the department's activities. By working through these already-established sustainability channels, the Athletics Department ensures that ideas for green initiatives are continuously being generated.

One of the most significant ways that

sustainability has played a role in the Athletics Department is through the incorporation of green building practices in recent renovation projects. The re-turfing of Kohn field, for example, recycled 95% of the old surface and created a sprinkler system that recycles the water used. Furthermore, in the plans developing for the department's newest renovation, the project to replace the Bubble, sustainability has been incorporated throughout every step of the design process.

"That was front and center for this building project," said Quinn. From the start the architecture firms interviewing for the project were met by a panel that included, in addition to Facilities Project Manager Mark Gleason and Vice President for Administration Tim Spears, two voices for sustainability: Byrne and Jenks-Jay. "The conversation is a lot different with or without the Sustainability Director and the Dean of Environmental Affairs at the table," remarked Quinn.

The contending firms thus had to come prepared to address green issues, and the firm that was chosen, Sasaki Associates, demonstrated a sustainability ethos that aligned well with the College's vision for the project. In addition, earlier this year the Athletics Department held a two-day meeting with the architects in which at least half a day was dedicated to addressing sustainability concerns for the project, with an entire workshop on the topic. This upfront effort to ensure that the renovation is as green

as possible clearly demonstrates the systemic nature of sustainability in athletics.

"The new construction of the field house will provide another amazing opportunity to embed sustainability into our athletes, events and supporters," said Andrew Gardner.

Quinn echoed this notion of a deeper commitment to sustainability, adding, "We don't take a cynical, PR-type approach to being green. It's embedded in what we do."

Given these recent strides promoting the growth of sustainability within the College's athletic culture, both Quinn and Gardner are optimistic about the future, and eager to see students assume a greater role in fostering new green initiatives.

"In a few years, what I see is a really active cohort of students bringing ideas to the table," said Quinn, alluding to the "Green Liaison" program led by Gardner in which student-athletes meet to discuss ways to incorporate green practices on sports teams. One of Gardner's main initiatives is the on-going effort to reduce vehicular traffic around the athletics center, that is, encouraging students to make the daily practice commute on foot or by bike. Despite mixed results with this campaign, Gardner remains optimistic about the culture of sustainability among athletes and students in general.

"Watching these committed young people drive the conversation and empower change in support of sustainable practices is truly exciting," he concluded.

Sports Spotlight

As a sports fan at this school — and I tend to think of myself as one of the few true sports fans — it often feels as if you're part of a scattered and uncoordinated fraternity that lacks the necessary communication skills to mobilize itself into congregation. If you've ever walked into the grille hoping to watch an important playoff game, only to find the television room filled with people watching *The Real World* you'll know what I mean.

To assure myself, and the rest of you who form this disparate subculture at Middlebury, that passionate sports fans do exist at this school, I will be spotlighting some of the more unique sports fans on campus — student, faculty and staff. Indeed, our first fanatic is a member of faculty, Political Science Professor Matt Dickinson.

Professor Dickinson is perhaps best known by his students for three things: his dry sense of humor, his overzealous coverage of Herman Cain's presidential bid and above all, his unapologetic, diehard love of the Boston Red Sox.

"In the classroom I try and put a little edge into discussion by wearing my sporting allegiances on my sleeves," Dickinson said. "Based on the reaction to my injection of sports into my lectures, I'd say there's intense interest in a certain segment of the students about professional sports. Most of my references are to the Boston sports teams so the biggest feedback I get is from the New York sports fans."

Which is of no particular surprise. Middlebury draws disproportionately from the Northeast. Dickinson is well aware of the demographics of the college and cites the success of both cities' sports teams as one reason why there are so many fans of each.

"We're in New England and New England sports teams have done so well lately," he said. "So you can't help but at least pay attention to it because it's all around you."

Sure, if you're the average sports fan. But Dickinson's fan loyalties run deeper.

"My job here is to encourage Red Sox fans and discourage Yankees fans from taking my course," he said. "And then of course there's an ethical dimension to this, which is, 'how can you live with yourself as a New York fan?' I try to improve the ethics of my students by pointing out all the problems with New York sports. That's my professional duty on this campus. It's not just about education — it's about saving these fans' lives."

Professor Dickinson, whose father is a Yankees fan, dates his love for baseball back to 1967.

"I was in second grade in 1967, which was the 'Impossible Dream' year for the Red Sox," he recalled. "The Red Sox had sucked for years, but '67 was what turned it all around. They really were horrible. They were a country club team, attendance was spotty; they really had Ted Williams and nothing else. And then '67 came out of nowhere and Carl Yazstremski became my hero."

The Red Sox clinched one of the greatest pennant races ever and went on to play the St Louis Cardinals in the World Series.

"Because World Series games were played during the day — there were no night games then — our elementary teacher let us listen to the games on the radio. Rico Petrocelli, the Red Sox shortstop, hit two home runs and forced a game seven and that's really when I got turned on to baseball and that's what stamped me as a life-long Red Sox fan."

Ultimately the Red Sox would drop the deciding game seven to the Cardinals, extending a World Series drought that finally ended in 2004 — the pinnacle of Dickinson's life as a Red Sox fan.

And while great Red Sox players like Dickinson's "sports icon" Carl Yazstremski never won a World Series, Dickinson offers some reprieve.

"It's not about winning the race but how you run the race," Dickinson said. "You have to find the virtues in the things around you."

Spoken like a true Red Sox fan and political scientist.

Damon Hatheway is a sports editor from London, England.

Volleyball boasts two-win weekend

By Alex Edel  
SPORTS EDITOR

In their last NESCAC regular season games, the volleyball team traveled to the NESCAC Quad tournament at Amherst where they came out 2-0 against Hamilton and Williams. With these victories, Middlebury advances to third place in NESCAC, trailing only Bowdoin and Tufts.

The Panthers started out the weekend with a 3-0 win over Hamilton Friday, Oct. 28. The team pulled ahead with a 10-4 run in the first set after a tied 9-9 stalemate and held the lead by at least six for the rest of the game. With two aces served up by Amy Hart '14, the team was able to take the first game 25-16.

The second game was again a 9-9 tie when Hamilton broke away to take an 18-14 lead over Middlebury. Middlebury did not let this discourage them and were able to tie up the score at 22 points. The teams then battled it out before Megan Jarchow '14 hit a game-changing kill, tying the score 25-25 to start the Panther 3-0 run to win the second set.

With the confidence of a two set lead, the Panthers got off to an early lead 10-0 and

were able to sweep the Continentals 25-9 in the third set. Jarchow led the Panthers with 17 kills while Hart and Jane Handel '12 combined for 15 kills. Libero Caitlin Barrett '13 was instrumental on defense again with 16 digs.

Saturday, the Panthers came ready to play and swept Williams 3-0. The Ephs took an early lead in the first set, but after a timeout the Panthers were able to surge forward and after an ace from Meg Anderson '14 they tied it up at 13-13. They continued on to win in a close 25-22 set with a kill from Jarchow. After winning the first set, the Panthers advanced to a 9-0 lead early in the second set. The Ephs fought back, but Middlebury proved too strong and won the set 25-13.

Hoping to come away with another 3-0 sweep, the third game proved to be much closer. However, Middlebury did not let this stop them and were able to pull away with a 3-0 win. Handel led the team in kills and was closely followed by Hart with 12 and 11 kills respectively.

"We really started to flow as a team this weekend and if we keep playing at this level we will do very well in the NESCAC

tournament this weekend," said Anderson.

These two wins come after the team went 2-1 at the Hall of Fame tournament over fall break. The Panthers opened the weekend with a 3-1 win over Wellesley, followed by 3-0 win over MIT. In their finale game, team fell 3-1 to Springfield. Handel was named to the all-tournament team after 12 kills against Wellesley, 10 against MIT and 14 in the Springfield matchup.

"We really started to flow as a team this weekend and if we keep playing at this level we will do very well in the NESCAC tournament this weekend," said Anderson.

The team will travel to Bowdoin this coming weekend to play in the NESCAC Championship tournament. They are set to start off the weekend against Conn. College. If they advance, they will play the winner of the Tufts/Williams match.

"This was just the type of momentum we need with one more regular season game left and the anticipation of NESCACs coming up this weekend," Hart said.

Last year the team came away with a NESCAC championship and advanced to the second round of the NCAA tournament.

The Middlebury Great Eight

Rank	10/20	Team	Katie's Comments
1	5	Women's soccer	Beating Williams for the first time in six years = winning in the Great Eight.
2	1	Field hockey	Finally broke the curse of the NESCAC quarterfinals! This team deserves to go far.
3	8	Men's soccer	Proving that the playoffs are a whole new season, this team has turned it up several notches.
4	6	Volleyball	Time for these NESCAC defending champs to protect their crown.
5	3	Cross country	Even though the teams didn't take NESCACs, Michael Schmidt '12 did, continuing his domination of everything running on two legs.
6	7	Football	They played an excellent game against Bates — too bad that was the away game.
7	—	Men's rugby	A 3-3 finish to the season isn't bad for their D-I debut.
8	—	Women's rugby	Despite a tough loss in the quarterfinals of the playoffs, they had a successful season playing in D-II for the first time.



Paul Gerard, Photos Editor

The women's soccer team shut out the Ephs 1-0 before taking their NESCAC quarterfinal game vs. Colby 2-0.



## Men's soccer upsets 2nd-ranked Wesleyan in NESCAC quarters

By Mike Oster  
STAFF WRITER

The Middlebury men's soccer team geared up for the NESCAC tournament with their final in season game against Williams last Wednesday, Oct. 26. Following a 1-0 win at Bates the previous weekend, Oct. 22, the Panthers were showing signs of heating up as the regular season wound down and playoff time approached. In the Williams game, the team continued its trend of out-shooting opponents, with a 19-6 advantage in shots on goal.

Middlebury's first attempt came four minutes into the first half when Tyler Macnee '12 missed a header off a cross from Martin Drolet '12.

A similar attempt came just four minutes later off a free kick from Jack Freeman '12, with Alex Colucci '12 missing another header just wide. Ephs goalkeeper Than Finan thwarted a final first attempt by Graham Knisely '14 with a diving save.

The Panthers continued to push the Ephs defense into the second half but Finan was able to block another attempt by Jon Portman '13.

Scoreless after regulation, the game was pushed into overtime where neither team managed to score. Defender Tyler Smith '14 and goalkeeper Tim Cahill '12 stopped an early attempt by User Kushaina. Cahill made seven saves and, with a final score of 0-0, earned his ninth scoreless match of the season.

After Wednesday's hard-fought tie, championship season began on Saturday as the seventh-ranked Panthers took on the second-ranked Wesleyan Cardinals in an attempt to defend their NESCAC title.

The two teams tied 0-0 in their regular season matchup. Before the game, Wesleyan had been ranked ninth in the nation and had dropped just one game on the season — a 2-0 loss to Trinity in the final game of the season.

Despite being the underdogs,

the Panthers took control of the game in the middle of the first half and never turned back.

The Cardinals looked good initially, with an early goal in the 10th minute by Zach Dixon. The Panthers, however, were quick to answer.

In the 29th minute, Wesleyan goalkeeper Adam Purdy stopped a shot from Noah Goss-Woliner '15. Knisely, however, grabbed the rebound and scored to tie the game at 1-1. Just two minutes later, the Panthers took the lead. Mark Martin '13 scored off a pass from Robbie Redmond '12 to take the lead for good.

The Panthers scored a third goal in the 84th minute with Drolet out-maneuvering Purdy for his sixth goal of the season. Wesleyan's Dixon managed to score 29 seconds later, but ultimately it was not enough.

With a final score of 3-2, Middlebury upset Wesleyan to and advanced to the quarterfinals where they will face the sixth-ranked Lord Jeffs.



Courtesy of Jeff Patterson

Matt Martin '12.5 scored the Panthers' game-tying goal at Wesleyan.

This game marked coach David Sward's 300th win. During his 27-year run with the Panthers, he has earned a 300-97-47 record and has led the Panthers to at least the semifinals of the NESCAC tournament since its inception.

The Panthers will continue

their pursuit of the NESCAC title this weekend away at Amherst. They hope to use their momentum from Saturday's game to grab their second consecutive NESCAC title. The Panthers fell 3-0 to Amherst in their only other meeting against the Lord Jeffs on Sep. 18.



File Photo

Middlebury advances to the NESCAC semifinals where the Panthers will play rivals Amherst. The Panthers fell 3-0 to Amherst earlier this season.

## Field hockey beats Williams in quarters

By Dillon Hupp  
SPORTS EDITOR

Field hockey sensation Lauren Greer '13 set the all-time school mark for scoring last weekend, as Middlebury rolled over Williams for the second consecutive game to advance to the semifinals of the NESCAC tournament.

After finishing their regular season with a 6-3 victory over Williams on Oct. 26, the Panthers took the field against their familiar foe in the quarterfinals of the NESCAC tournament. On their

home turf, Middlebury executed perfectly, shutting out the Ephs, leaving no doubt about who the team to beat in the conference is.

Greer made her mark early in the quarterfinal, scoring her first goal of the contest just under 11 minutes in.

Off of a penalty corner feed from Lucy Jackson '13, Greer scored the record setting goal, the 67th of her career. The junior superstar broke the record

SEE NCAA, PAGE 23



This week, as part of the green issue of the Campus our own Katie Siegner takes a closer look at how the Athletic Department has done its part to reduce its carbon footprint, particularly with the recent renovation of Kohn Field. She interviewed Athletic Director Erin Quinn and ski coach Andrew Gardner who weighed in on the issue. See page 27 for the full article.

## Women's soccer prepares for semifinal rematch with Ephs

By Dillon Hupp  
SPORTS EDITOR

The varsity women's soccer team roared into the NESCAC semifinals last weekend, downing the Mules of Colby 2-0 in a home quarterfinal match on Oct. 29. Scarlett Kirk '14 scored both goals in the victory, the Panthers' fifth in a row. All five of those victories have come without a single goal allowed by the Middlebury defense.

The Panthers' run into the NESCAC tournament began two weekends ago, when they defeated Bates 1-0 on the road on Oct. 22. In that game, Ali Omsberg '15 scored her first career goal in the 68th minute to secure the Middlebury victory. The Panthers followed up that effort by defeating Williams by the same score at home on Oct. 26. That victory earned Middlebury the second overall seed in the NESCAC tournament, and also broke a six-game losing slide to the Ephs — the Panthers had previously not defeated their Williamstown rivals since 2005. Rachel Madding '14 was the lone scorer in that game, taking an assist from Julia Favorito '14 in the 18th minute and finding the back of the net. Following the win over Williams, the Panthers were guaranteed at least one home playoff match.

"We came out so strong against Williams," said outside back Lucy Wagner '13, part of a Middlebury back line that has not

given up a goal since Oct. 8. "It was awesome to see the high level of play that we're capable of showing. Every single player has been giving 100 percent in practice and on the field, and that's really encouraging going into NESCACs."

The Panthers hosted the NESCAC quarterfinal match against Colby on Homecoming Saturday, Oct. 29. The Panthers had previously trounced the Mules 4-0 back on Sept. 17 and came into the game with a bevy of confidence. Those feelings would not be ill-placed, as Kirk put a goal in during each half and the Middlebury defense and goaltending played their usual solid game, keeping Colby off the board for the second time this season.

The Panthers opened the scoring in the 21st minute, when Kirk took a Favorito pass and beat her defender, blasting the winner into the top right corner of the net. The Mules had a few decent chances in the first half, including a corner kick in the 35th minute, but were unable to convert, and went into halftime down 1-0.

Middlebury changed goalies going into the second half, switching out starter Jocelyn Remmert '13 in favor of Elizabeth Foody '14. Foody would have an immediate impact on the game, sliding into an attacking Colby player and neutralizing an excellent chance for the Mules just four minutes

SEE PANTHERS, PAGE 24



Paul Gerard, Photos Editor

The Panthers used tenacious defense to shut out the rival Ephs.

### this week in sports

**Volleyball**  
The squad goes 2-0 on the weekend, page 27.



**games to watch**  
Football vs. Hamilton  
Saturday, Nov. 5, 12:30 p.m.  
NESCAC tournament games



**Homecoming 2011**  
Turn inside for coverage of the football game and other festivities from the weekend.